Rose Estes: On An Unstoppable Endless Quest

J.Q. GRAZIANO
OCT 08, 2023

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Today, Rediscovered Realms is honored to be speaking with Rose Estes — the very creator of TSR's *Endless Quest* books, which were so monumental in drawing kids into reading and fantasy back in the early 80s. They were a gateway for me, a driving force for lifelong reading as well as a major inspiration for starting this newsletter.

JQ: Rose, thank you for joining me on Rediscovered Realms! First, let me say congratulations for being inducted into “The Academy of Adventure Gaming Arts and Design Hall of Fame” last year.

The curator, Michael Elliot credited you with drawing countless people into Tabletop Role Playing Games and helping make the $12-billion industry what it is today.

Tell us about this award and how it feels to know you've had such an impact on the world?

RE: To understand the impact the award has had on my life, you'd have to know what happened before. After leaving TSR and signing with Random House, Bantam, Putnam Berkeley and others, I had transitioned into Rose the Writer.

That was who I was until 1994 when I was a passenger in a vehicle that was T Boned, on my side of the car. I suffered a closed head injury and it was eventually discovered that it had "killed" the part of the brain that retrieves vocabulary.

Ironic, no? Because I had an extensive vocabulary before the accident, I seemed fine to everyone else. But I wasn't. Words no longer sprang easily to mind and I felt as though I were stumbling in the dark searching without finding and struggling with my very thoughts.

Oddly enough, before the accident, I had always struggled to find plots and used to beg friends like Jim Ward to give me ideas. Once I had the idea, I was good but until then, it was a desert.

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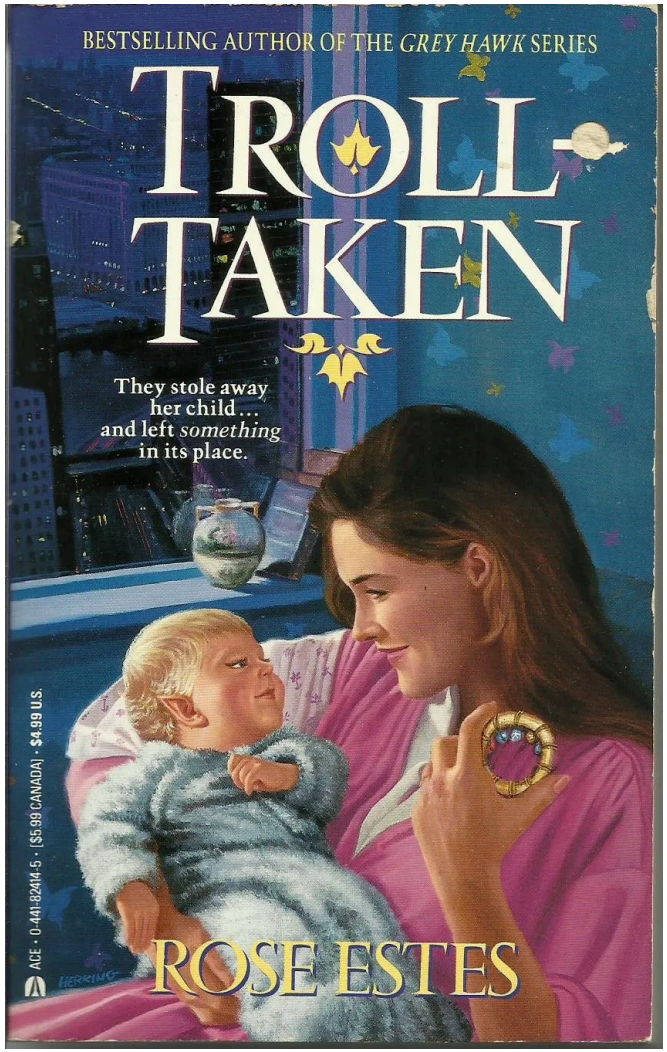
But after the accident ideas sprung forth unbidden like weeds after rain. It was overwhelming. And there was no way to shut them off, ideas and wild unrelated thoughts each screaming to be heard. It was too much! My brain was bedlam but I was without the ability to impose order or give word to explain what was happening. I've always thought of it as if going from black and white Kansas to technicolor Oz.

The experts all told me that the brain does not rewire itself and what I had was my new reality, which as you might imagine was very depressing.



Cover artist: Michael Herring

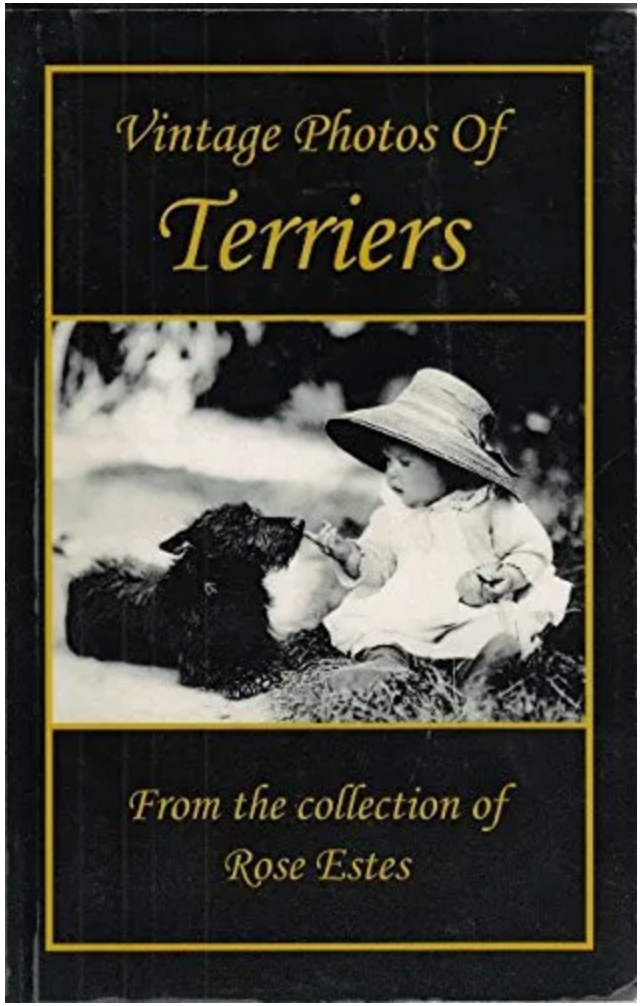
But fortunately, due to the many serious closed head injuries suffered by football players and those in other sports, sports medicine was coming to the fore with new research and new information. They reported (I read it in *Time* magazine) that the brain *does* rewire itself, finding and forging new

paths. And, so it was with my brain, but it took a long time and it changed me.

I was overcome by a terrible depression that lasted for years. I felt lost. If I weren't Rose the Writer, who was I? I had numerous contracts at the time of the accident which I was mostly unable to fulfill.

My partner, Tom Wham, would set me up in the morning before he went to work. He'd give me an outline of what I had to write that day and leave me in a dark room with only the computer on, cutting down on all external distractions and in that manner I completed several books and was able to eke out an existence. Bill Fawcett acquired several contracts for me that were written like that with both his and Tom's assistance.

Desperately needing a do over, I left Wisconsin and moved to the Central Oregon Coast in 2002. The close proximity to the ocean did a lot to calm my mind and while I was still fighting depression, things slowly got better.



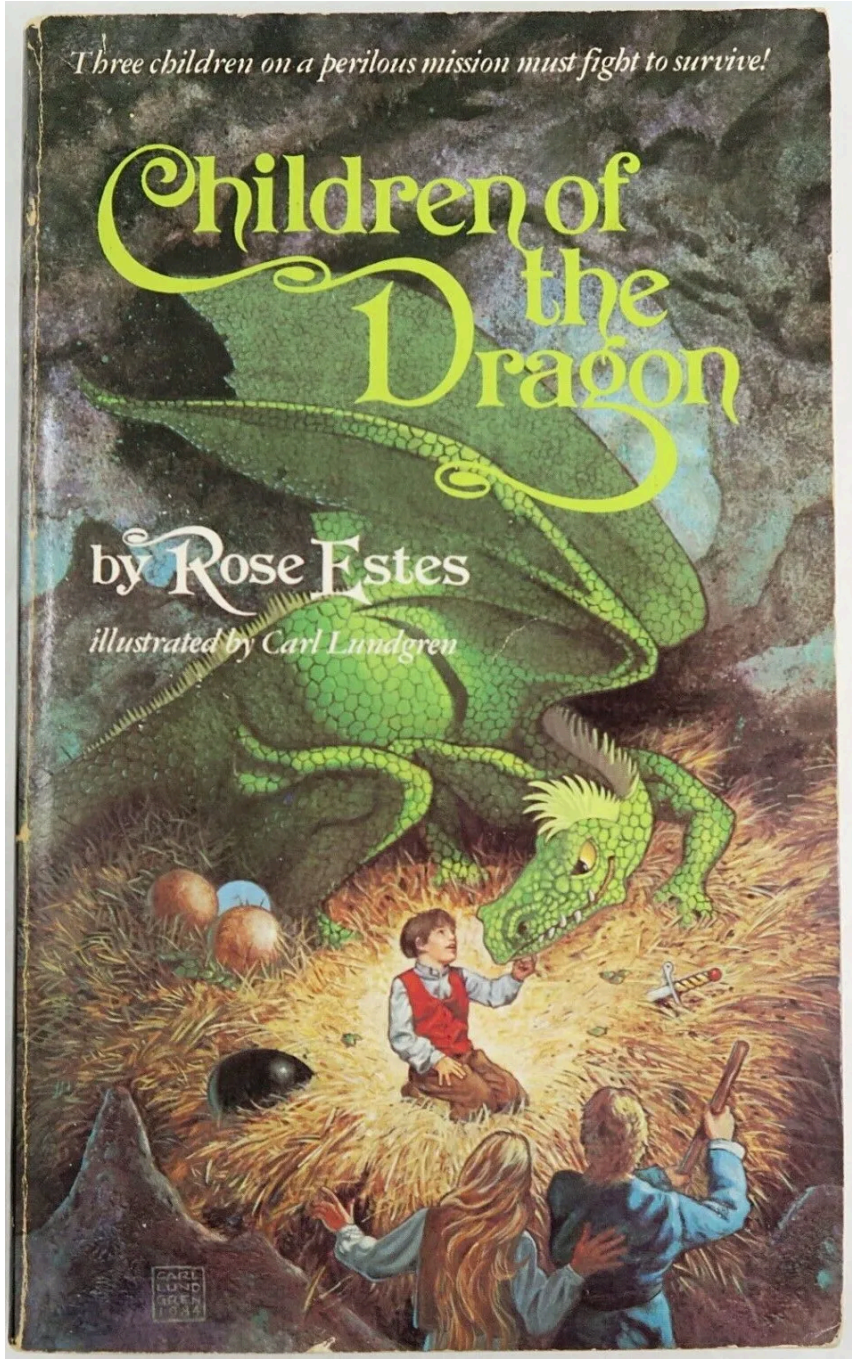
I started small and wrote three books of nonfiction about dogs. Nonfiction to me is much, much easier than fiction and I self-published which was far easier than working for a publisher and checking all the boxes fitting into another's schedule. All three books sold out of respectable print runs and that gave me a lot of confidence to go forward.

To be honest, the TSR days and the *Endless Quest* books didn't figure in my thoughts at all at this time. It was just something that had happened to me in the past, while I was struggling daily to have a future.

Many things happened in these years. I married a man named Gary Hauser and when he became ill, I took over running his gallery. I expected that it would be temporary until he got better and came back. Unfortunately, that didn't happen and he died in 2011.

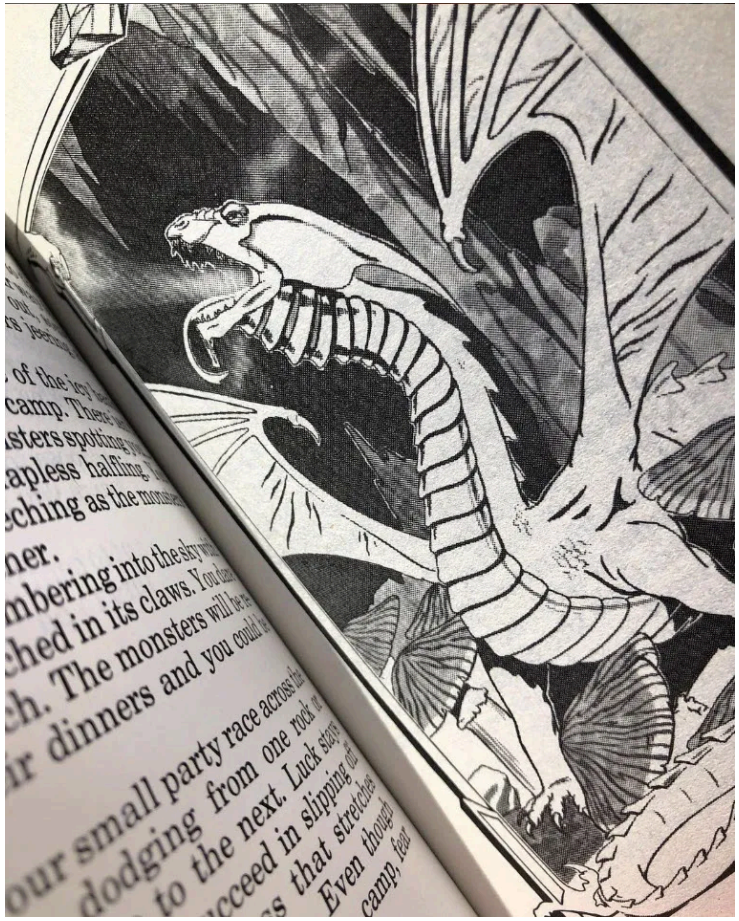
Once again I was overcome by depression. Lost. I decided not to close the gallery, it seemed to be his legacy as he had never had children and it felt wrong to close. But, I couldn't do what he did and when I asked him what I should do, he said "follow your passions," which gave me a direction to follow.

Now, over the years, the Hauser Gallery, located in the tiny town of Seal Rock, Oregon (population 400) has become a destination point and is filled with wondrous things gathered from all the places in the world that I would have liked to travel to.


Three children on a perilous mission must fight to survive!
Children of the Dragon
by Rose Estes
illustrated by Carl Lundgren

Cover artist: Carl Lundgren

And Dragons. In all shapes and sizes. We are known locally as the “Dragon Gallery” and have become a destination point rather than a casual stop. And I have learned just how much everyone loves dragons. Not just children, mostly adults.



Art by Jim Holloway from “Mountain of Mirrors” Endless Quest book

It was into this new life that the award came.

At first, I was merely bemused. I nearly deleted Mike Elliott's email, thinking it was spam. How could such a thing be? In the first place, it had happened 40 years ago!

In the second place, it had all come about because of a fluke. I had never even thought of writing a book. I'd been a journalist, but books? No, I never thought I had a book in me. It felt like a mistake.

The *Endless Quest's* weren't deemed important in the company, at least I'd never felt that way. I'd always felt out of the loop with the company, never felt a deep connection with them. While I wasn't actually on adversarial terms with management, I didn't feel that they actually liked me and that hurt because I loved the company.

returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere The gnoll sets with it
to the salamander. "They had no right to
can't help it if I'm different than the rest...
killing people. All those nasty orcs hangin
give me the creeps. I tried... Really I did...
like tearing people, limb from limb, and a
gnoll things."

Nasnath, from Return to Brookmere by Ro

5w

wallevand I knew this as soon as I saw tha

5w 1 like Reply

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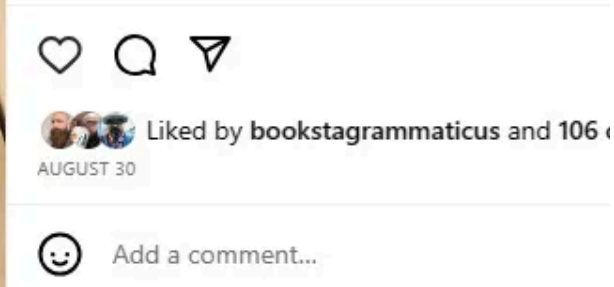


Art by Timothy Truman from “Return to Brookmere” Endless Quest book

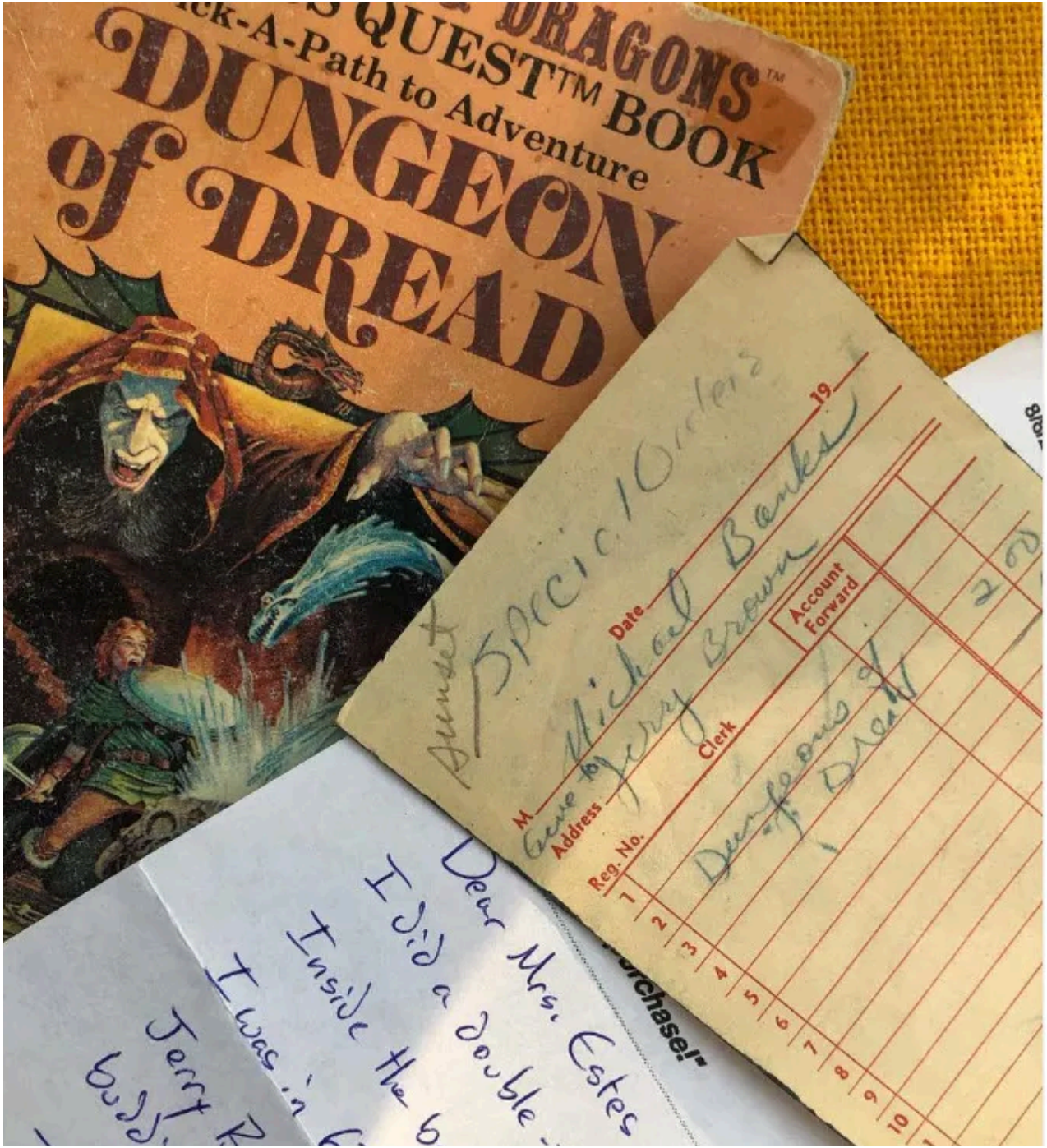
For those reasons, and more, it was hard for me to take the award seriously. I really couldn't wrap my head around it. But people who worked with me at the gallery took it seriously and notified the local papers who also took it seriously and several long interviews followed along with photos of me and the books.

There have been numerous podcasts and my oldest son, Daniel, even has an Instagram account called Return to Brookmere with over 2,000 followers!

Rose’s son, Daniel, reading one of Rose’s Endless Quest books live for his subscribers

And people have started arriving at the gallery carrying their dog-eared books that they've kept for 40 years! I don't even have a single book I've kept for 40 years!

I was dumbfounded. But it has continued to happen and people are writing to me and everyone is saying how much the E.Q's mattered to them and made profound impressions.



returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere Dear Mrs. Estes,
I did a double-take when I saw your name
address! Inside the book cover is the origi
book fair when I was in sixth grade at Sun
in Airway Heights, WA. Jerry Brown, whos
receipt, was one of my D&D buddies.
Thank you for all the great D&D products
had a very large impact on me as a youth,
D&D today!
Sincerely,
Michael Banks

50w

bluenote_1553 Amazing👏

50w 1 like Reply

returntobrookmere One thing I really lov
mother's old books are the finding how p
them. Often they're signed "this book bel
other such markings. This eBay buyer how
something much more special! And little
would only be the beginning of his surpri
this book. You never know what you'll find

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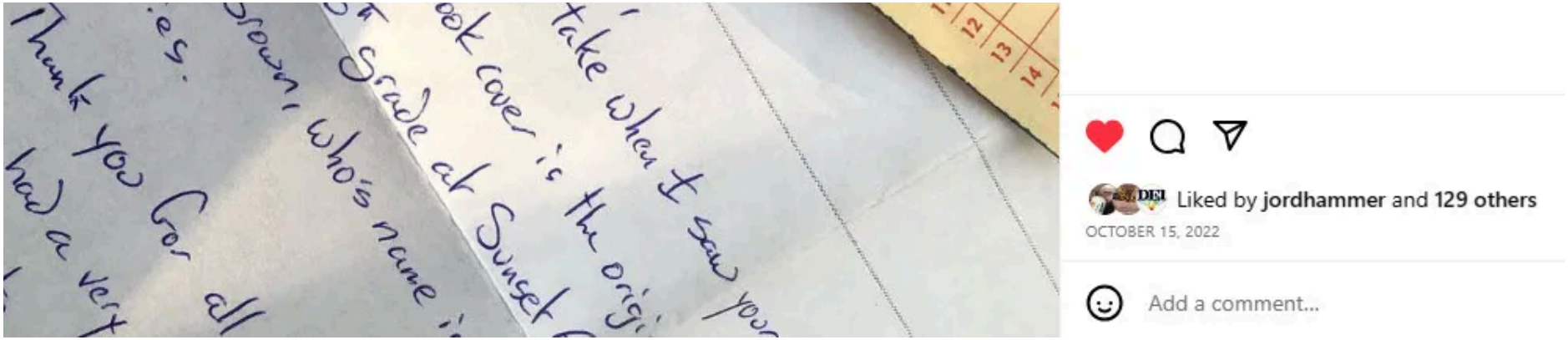


Heartfelt appreciation of the Endless Quest Books from Michael Banks: ". . . Thank you for all the great D&D products over the years. This had a very large impact on me as a youth, and I continue to play D&D today!"

At first, I was incredulous but as I hear it over and over again I have finally accepted that something I did truly made a difference in people's lives.

So, to finally answer your question, the award has given validity to my life.

I have made a difference and truly, when you think about it, isn't that all we can really hope for in this brief span of time we've been given--to make a positive difference in someone's life? Even if it did happen because of a fluke. It mattered.

> **Hear Rose Estes accept her award** and talk about the Endless Quest origin story!

JQ: I'm speechless. There were so many challenges, disappointments and unknowns you faced down. It makes my heart glad that people have made it known to you how important your books were to them from their childhoods all the way through adulthood. You're right, it did matter.

Now Rose, from what I've read and what you just told me, you've had a very colorful and interesting life so far. You learned to read at the age of 2, grew up to be a self-proclaimed hippie for a while, had several different careers from newspaper reporter to author to gallery curator, multiple life-changing accidents & health issues including losing your ability to effectively formulate words - and you were the longest record holder NY

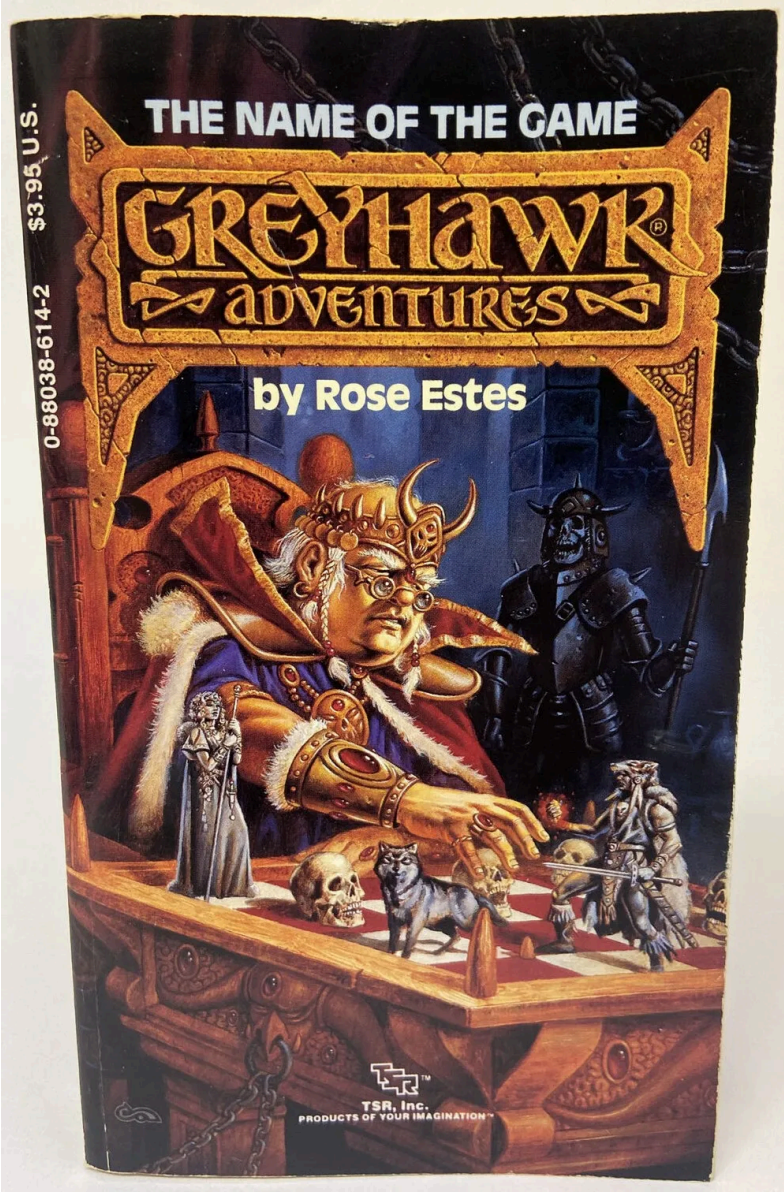
Times bestselling author until JK Rowling. There was even a time as an adult you joined the circus! Wow.

RE: I came along too late be an actual hippie. But I did live deep in the mountains of British Columbia in a log cabin in the tiny village of Brookmere (population 16) with my husband, before the children came along, for two years and that was an idealistic time of peacefulness that I look back on fondly.

A young Rose Estes, ready to share her imagination with the world

JQ: Now that you've just achieved 83 years young, when you look back at all of that, what lessons or experiences stand out to you as the most significant and why?

RE: If there's a lesson to be learned from all that's happened in my life, I'd say that it can be important to take risks. Although I didn't realize it as it was happening, I've had a lifelong habit of taking risks and while some have been mistakes (a few could even be called disastrous), they've opened doors that a more cautious person would never have found and they have enriched my life in a great many ways. It's also important to note that these choices frequently did not seem risky, but merely more interesting than other options.

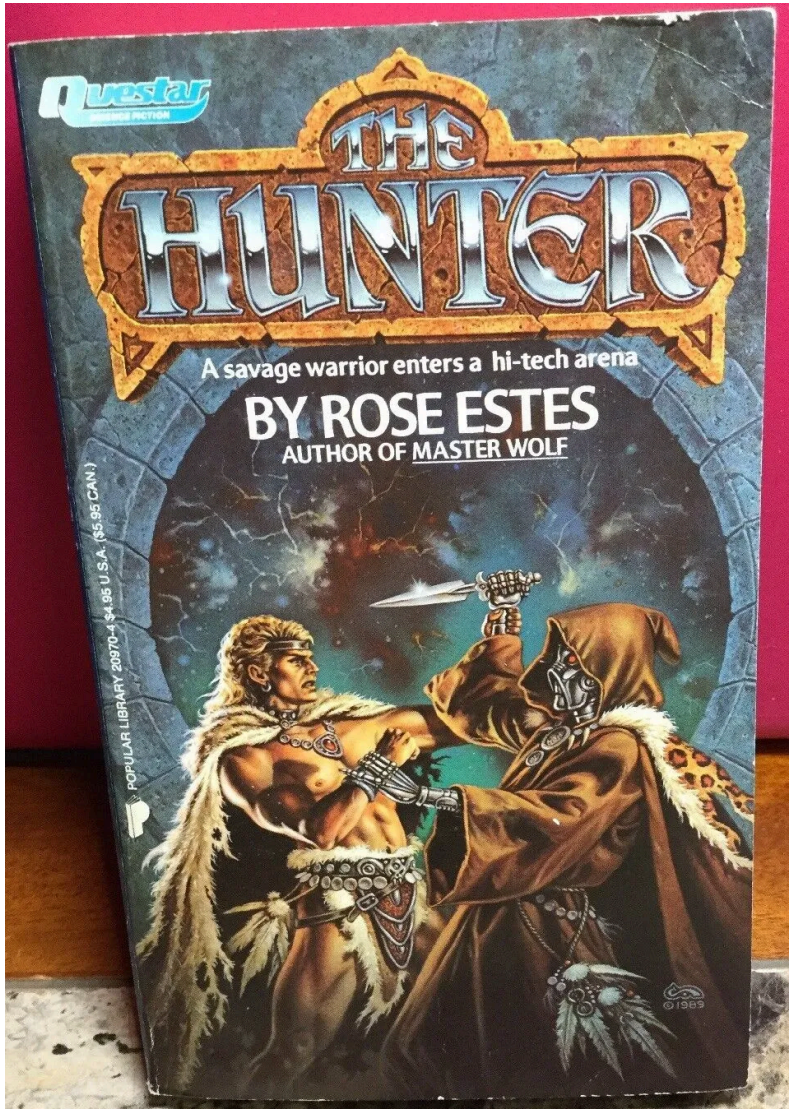


Cover artist: Clyde Caldwell

JQ: Wow, that advice hits me right in the gut. If I think about it, it's many of the scary/risky things I attempted (bruises and all) that have led to my greatest growth and successes. Anything you wish you could get a do-over for (or do again!)?

RE: If I had a do over, I would like to live my life with less personal drama. I was raised in a family with copious amounts of high drama. It's a waste of time and energy and does a lot of damage. I wish I could have told myself to be more straightforward-say what you mean and mean what you say, even if it's hard.

It would have been very helpful to understand depression. Sometimes depression occurs because of temporary circumstances. But sometimes it's a medical issue and not something that one can fix on their own. Medical intervention with understanding of your particular type and proper medication can make a world of difference. Literally. Don't think of it as a personal flaw - that you can fix yourself if you just try harder.



Cover artist: Clyde Caldwell

JQ: Thank you for the concentrated wisdom and for being so vulnerable with sharing that, Rose.

While we're delving a bit into the past, I saw that you are a big J.R.R Tolkien fan. I am too. Tell us about experiencing Tolkien in your life and the effect it had on you.

RE: While we were driving cross country on our way to Canada in 1969 I discovered Tolkien and it quite literally exploded in my mind.

I raced through each book and anguished when I could not find the next one. I'd NEVER read anything like him and became literally obsessed.

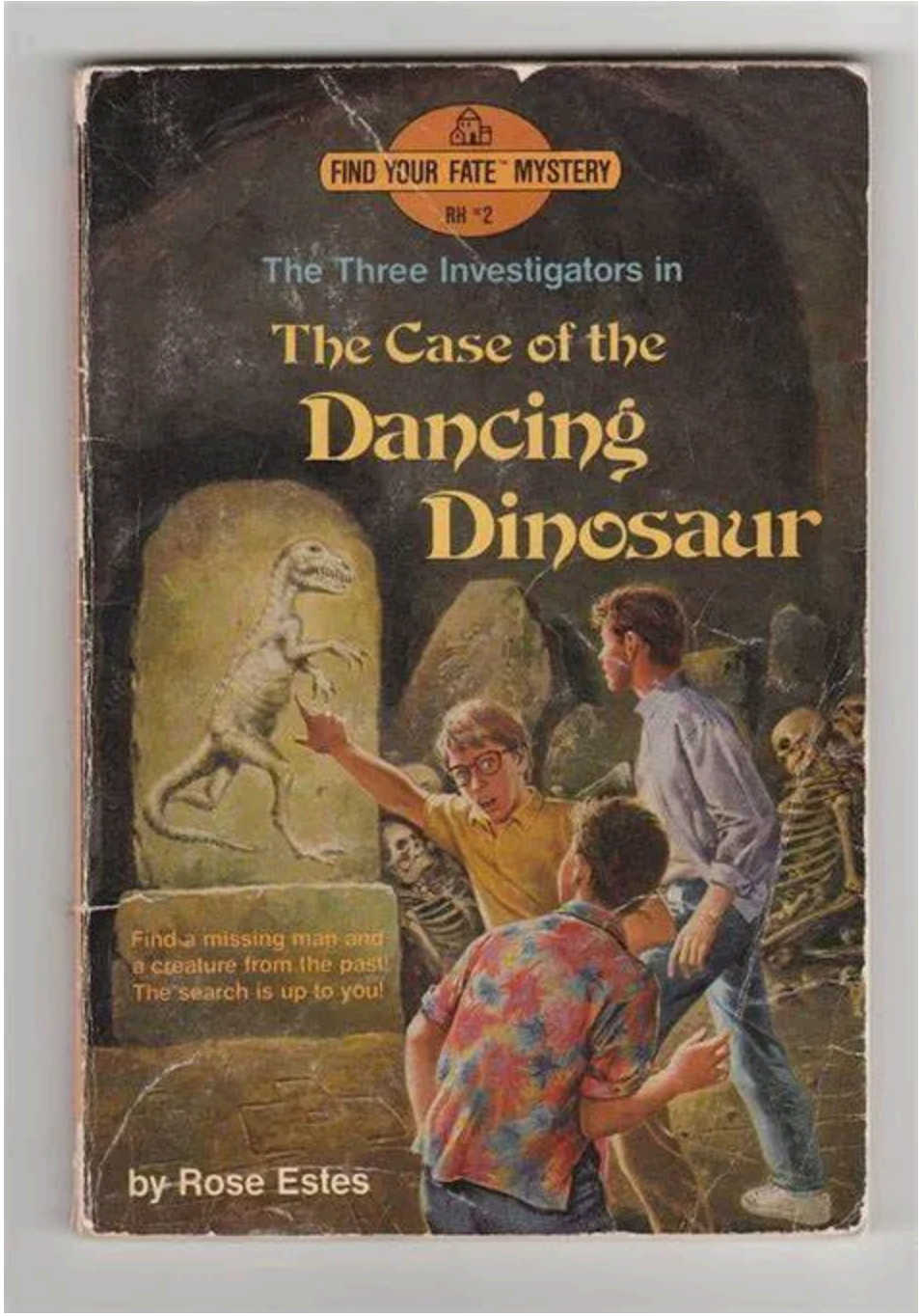
All three of my birth children have names from the trilogy: Daniel Aragorn, Lydia Arwen and Max Samwise. It was almost Max Boromir but in my culture we name children after those family members we've lost and I had recently lost an uncle Sam. Their names were chosen before they were ever conceived.

Rose’s children, Max & Lydia, Daniel’s siblings

Samwise, Arwen & Aragorn

JQ: I heard a little birdie somewhere that you even created a *Lord of the Rings* Find Your Fate book that never got published! Is this true, and if so, how much money do you want for that draft? Would $2 million cover it?

RE: Yes, the birdie told you correctly. As part of the inducement to sign with them, Random House offered the opportunity to write the prequel to *The Hobbit*. It's my understanding that Christopher Tolkien and two of his aunts liked what I wrote but one aunt disagreed and all had to agree before the project could go forward. I read only recently that someone had been chosen. They also offered an *Indiana Jones* book, an Alfred Hitchcock *Three Investigators* book (I'd never heard of it) and a ten book contract.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The Case of the
Dancing
Dinosaur
Find a missing man and
a creature from the past!
The search is up to you!
by Rose Estes

Cover artist: Vincente

Putnam/Berkeley offered five books and the opportunity to write a book on the making of the movie *Dune*. I'd have been sent to Chihuahua, Mexico immediately. I hate the heat and desolation of Chihuahua and didn't like *Dune* all that much so it was an easy decision. There were other offers as well.

Although we've found the first of the four original hand written (on legal pads) EQ's, I have no idea where the first draft of *The Hobbit* prequel is or if I still even have it.

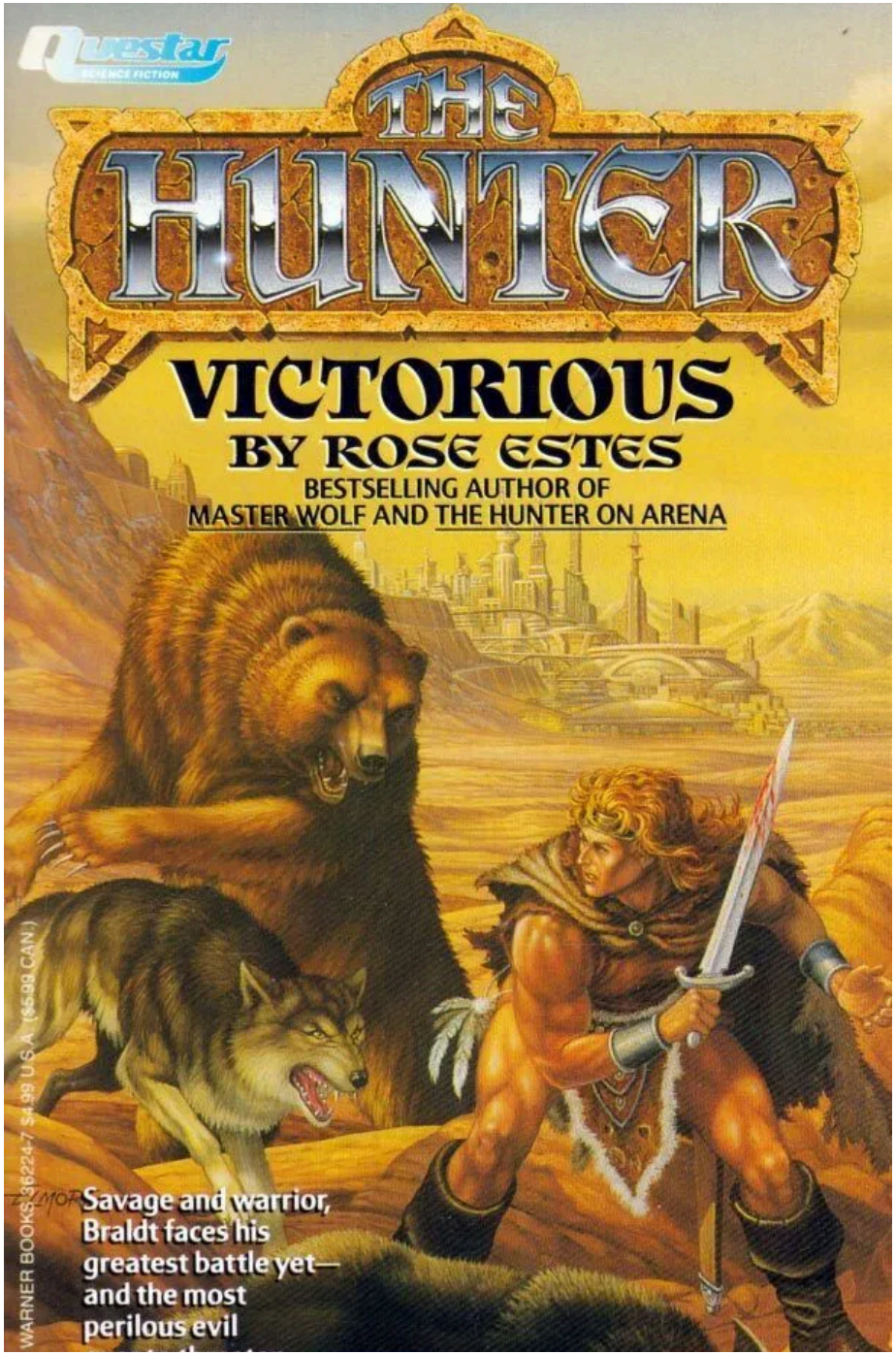
"We promises to take care of The Precious Hobbit Prequel if you gives it to us"

JQ: Well, you let me know if you ever find it! Were there other fantasy influences you had in your childhood?

RE: My father and his mother were both storytellers and I heard all the classic fairy tales as well as original stories and European staples like the Russian Baba Yaga (who scared me to death) and golems, live Yiddish theater, movies, books and a radio program called "Let's Pretend".

The first Indiana Jones electrified me and I bought the screenplay the very next day. I credit the opening scene of that Indiana Jones movie and serialized Saturday movie cartoons with forging my style of chapter ending cliffhangers.

I also saw a lot of classic ballet and opera due to my father's love of theater in any form. But his influence in turning me into a reader at such a young age as well as seeing probably every movie released in the first ten years of my life were also a huge influence.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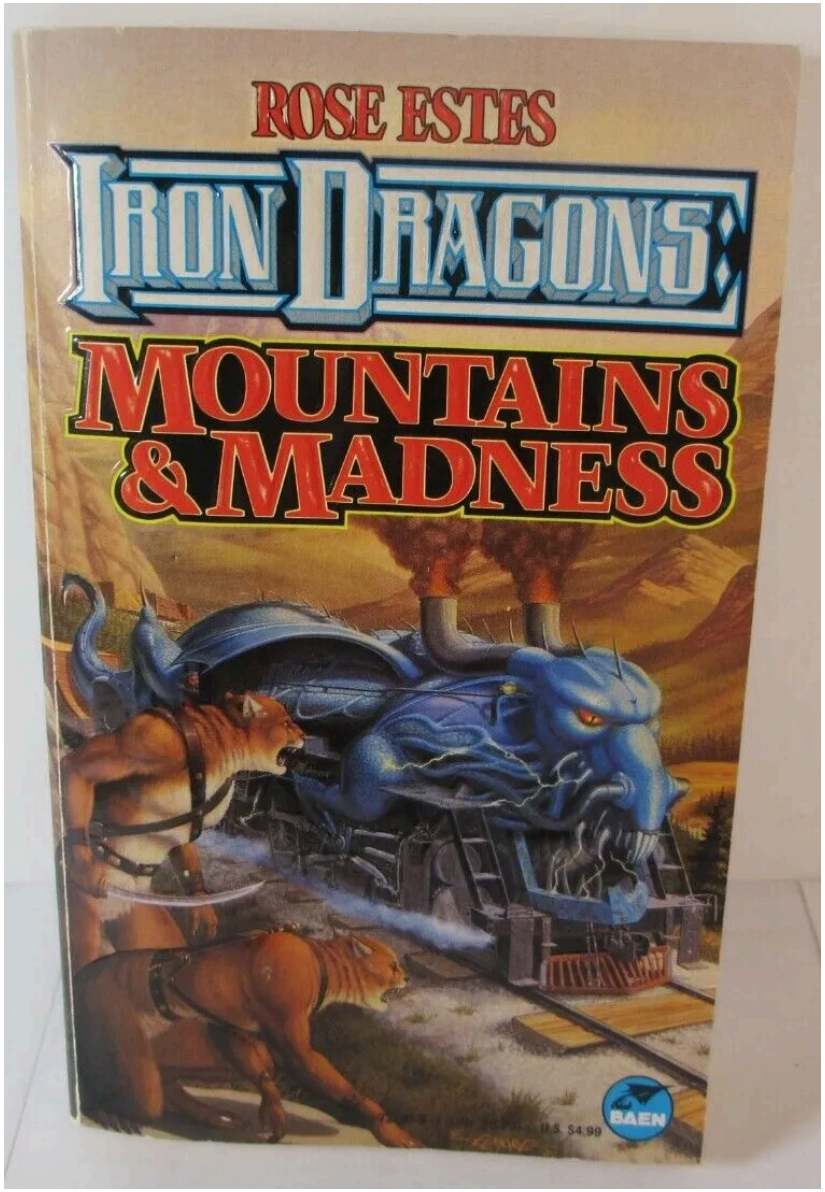
Cover artist: Larry Elmore

JQ: Now, before we move on to the TSR days, you mentioned the dog books you wrote. It sounds like you have a huge passion for dogs and dog ephemera. What is it about dogs that you love so much?

RE: Dogs. Don't know what I can say about them that hasn't been said a hundred million times already. They are nonjudgmental and given love, they return it without conditions.

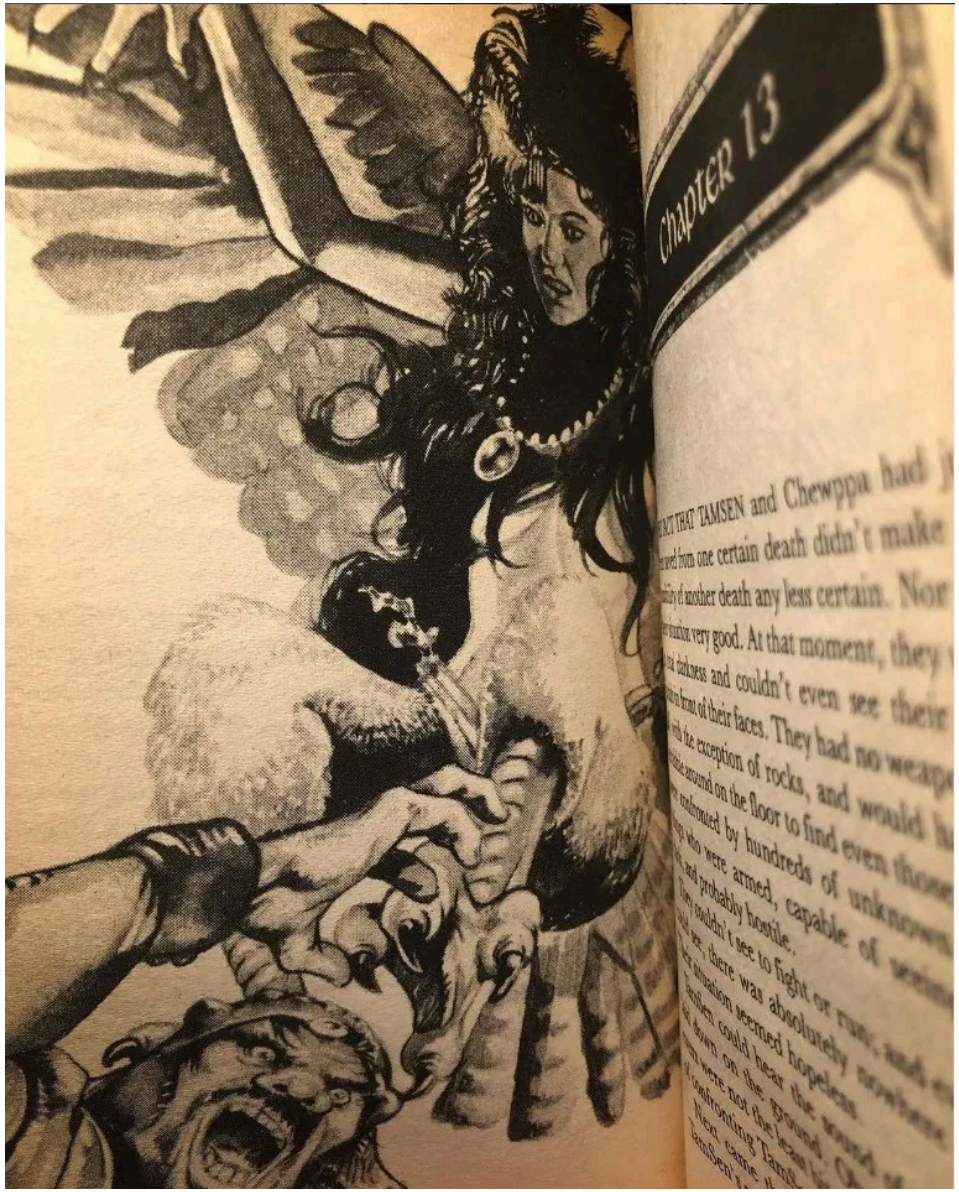
I was taught how to be a better person from the dogs in my life. On the other hand, cats ARE judgmental and do not love as easily. They held me to a higher standard which I still strive to achieve.

Dogs will listen to you ramble on and even pretend to be interested. Cats don't, but they communicate on a deeper/different level. I guess that's why I find it comfortable with talking animals in my stories. It feels natural to me.



“What’s she sayin’ George?” “I don’t know Frank - I’m never really interested in what she rambles on about.” (Cover artist: Larry Elmore)

JQ: OK. TSR. Late 70s. You were hired by fledgling TSR to do whatever needed doing as a startup needs, but wound up dealing with angry people & clergy who were calling in about the "Satanic Panic" — that time when *Dungeons & Dragons* was being vilified in the media due to false allegations and misunderstandings. TSR employees couldn't even get through the doors with the protestors at some points.



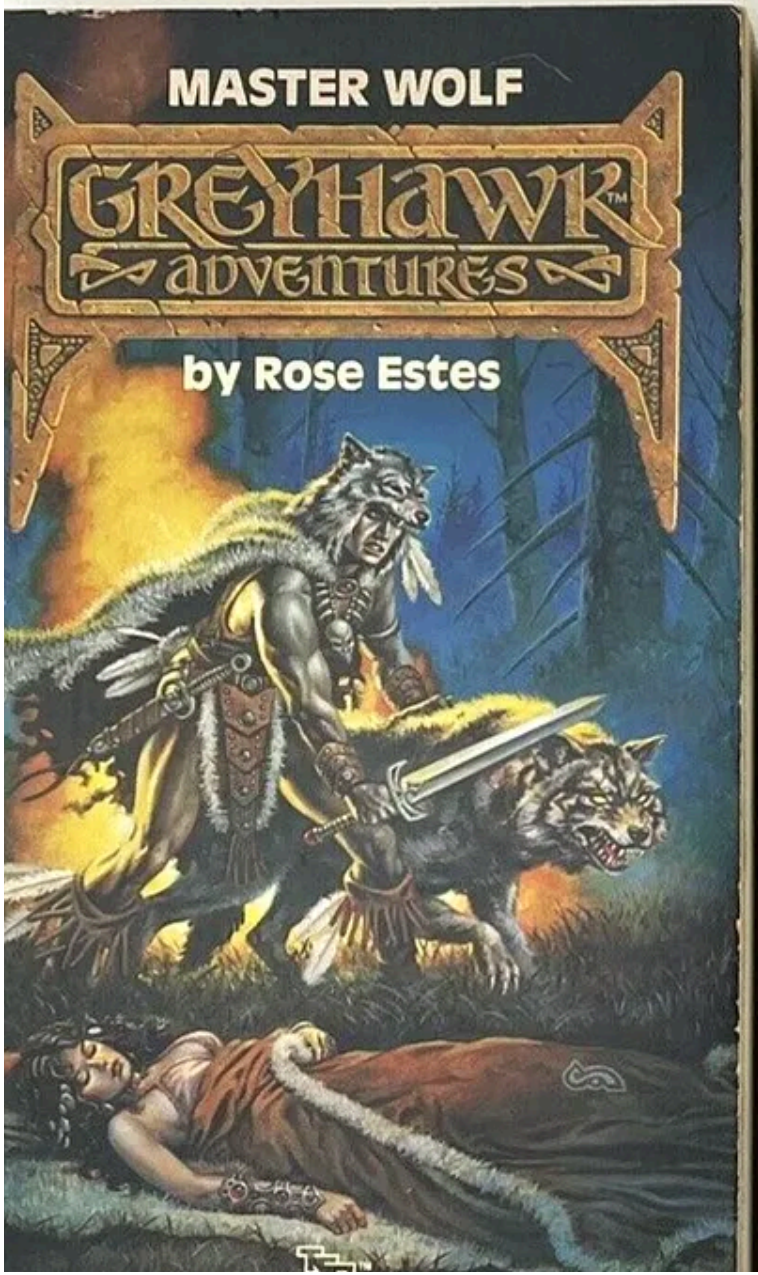
“Damn protestors! Let me get to my desk!” (Art by John and Laura Lakey, from “The Demon Hand” Greyhawk Adventure book)

You stated in an interview, “I was talking to ministers, teachers and parents who apparently thought we were leading their children into demon worship,”

“The rest of the company was so new and so unaware of how the rest of the world works, they thought if you just didn’t answer the phone or talk to any reporters, then the whole thing would go away. Instead, it just got worse and worse.”

What was the craziest thing you remember from that time, and were there any skills you acquired from it that helped you later in your career?

RE: Hmmm. I'm not sure about that. Talking has always been easy for me, even talking to strangers of any sort. I suppose my early years in journalism made it an even greater ability/strength. I've often said that you could shove me onto a stage in a theater filled to the brim with people and give me a sentence/a word and I could talk for hours. I have no fear of crowds or audiences.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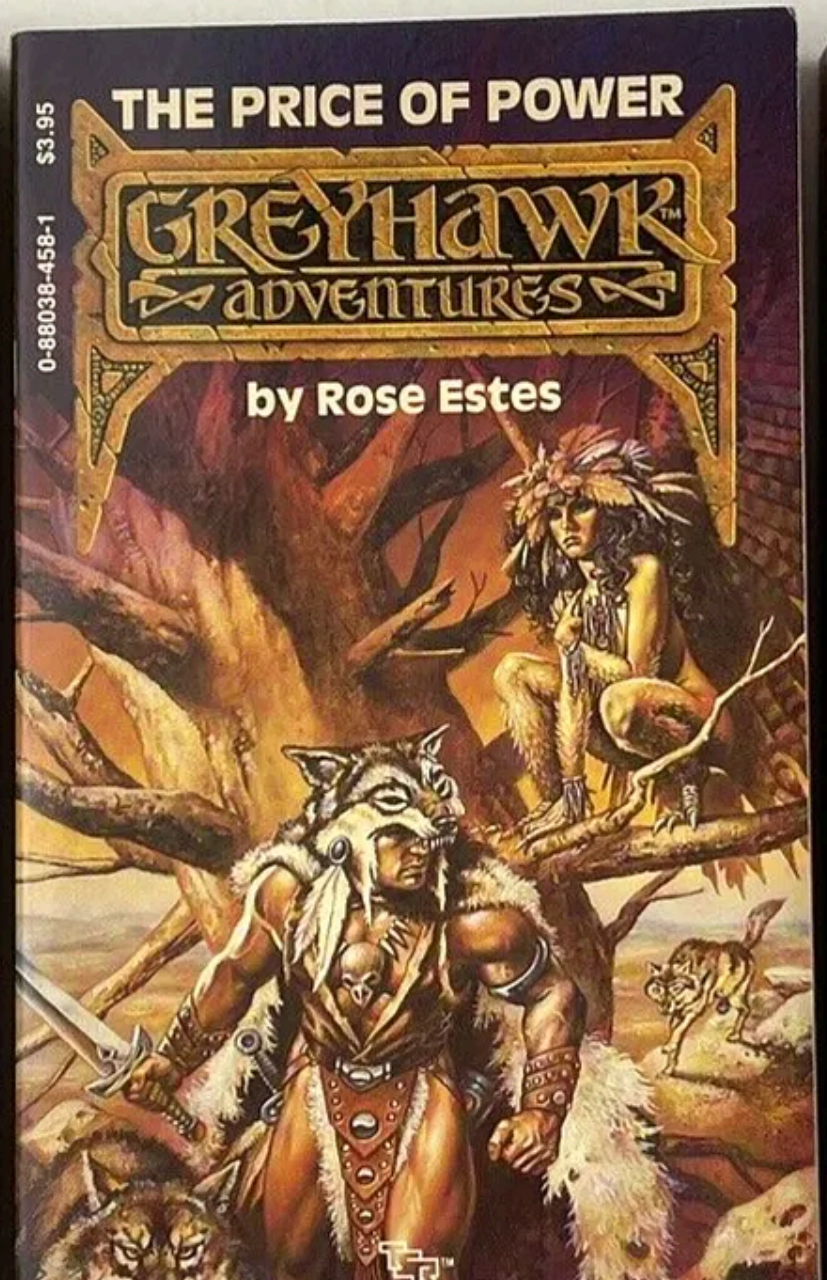
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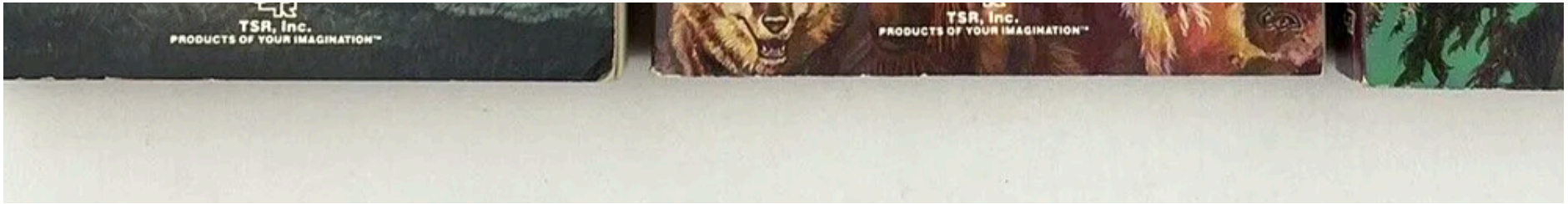


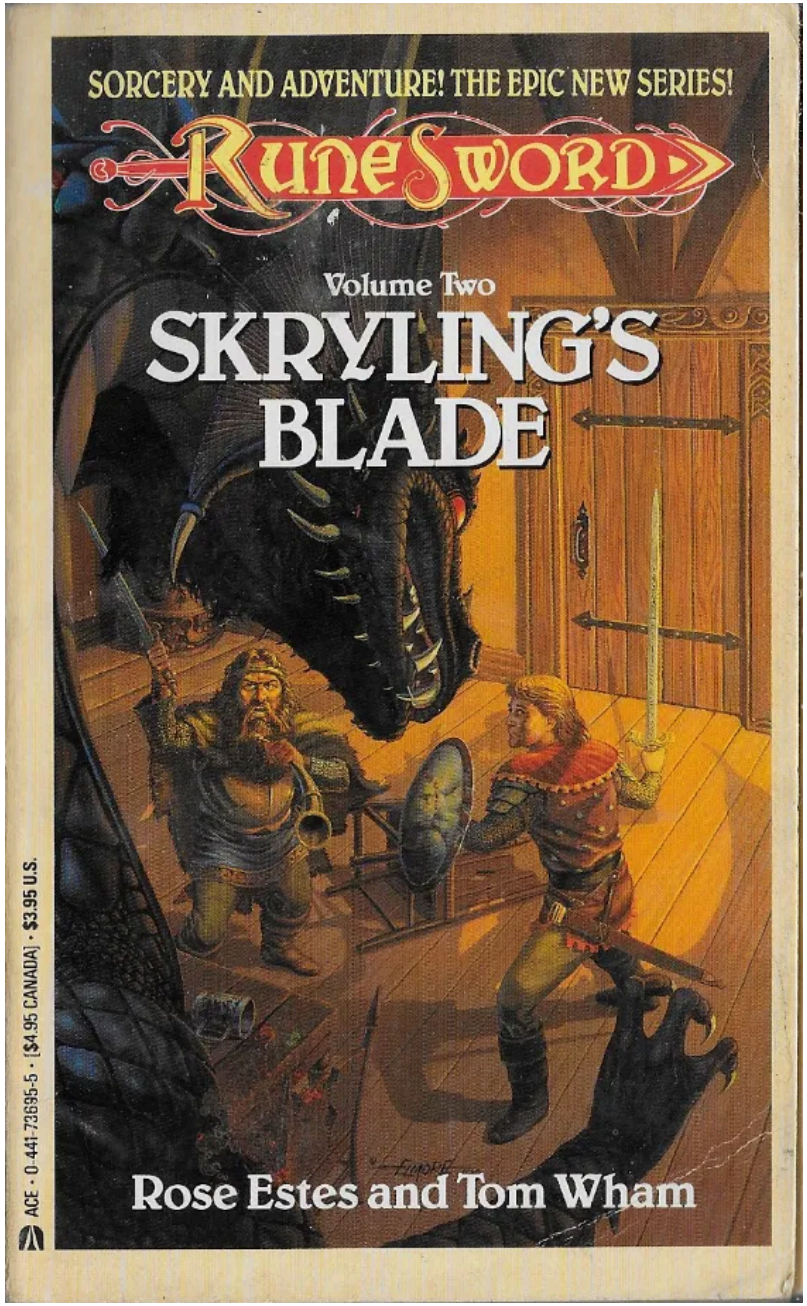
Cover artist: Clyde Caldwell

JQ: There's something I'd like for you to clear up for me, please. The Wikipedia article about you states that you were TSR's 13th employee.

Tom Wham, your partner of several years, is in a Wikipedia article that states *HE* was TSR's 13th employee.

Who's fibbing here?

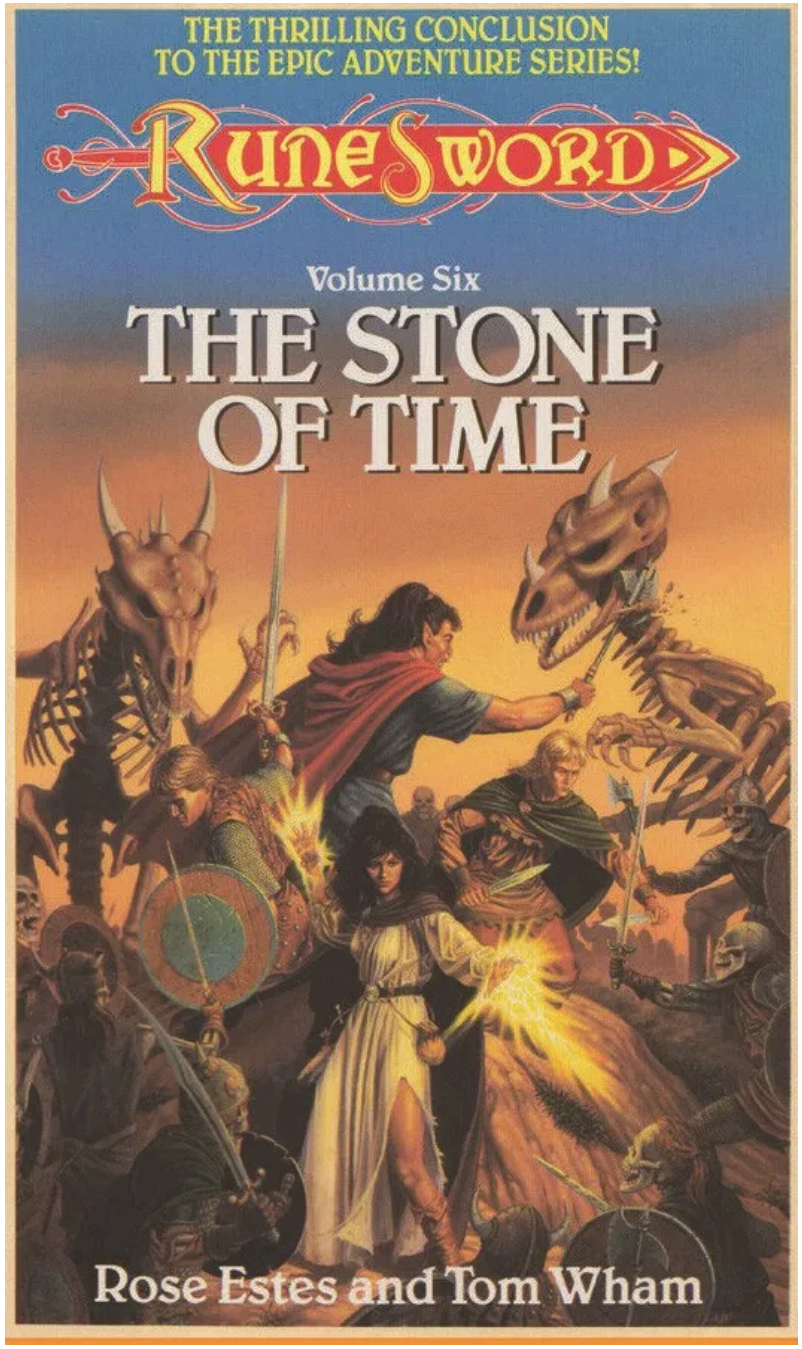
RE: Tom was hired much, much earlier than I was. In fact, Brian Blume agreed to hire me before he even met me, just because Tom asked him to.



Cover artist: Larry Elmore

JQ: By the way, there was a recent eBay auction for Tom's 1978 TSR "Snits Revenge Bolotomus" plush toy, based on his popular game. Can you believe it sold for $1,136?!

RE: Wow! That's wild! Too bad Tom didn't sell it. I think he still has one on his bookcase. I remember the Bolotomus-stuffing party that we had once, it was a lot of fun. I even have some pictures.


THE THRILLING CONCLUSION
TO THE EPIC ADVENTURE SERIES!
RuneSword
Volume Six
THE STONE
OF TIME
Rose Estes and Tom Wham

Cover artist: Larry Elmore

JQ: Cool - Let us know when you dig those pictures up!

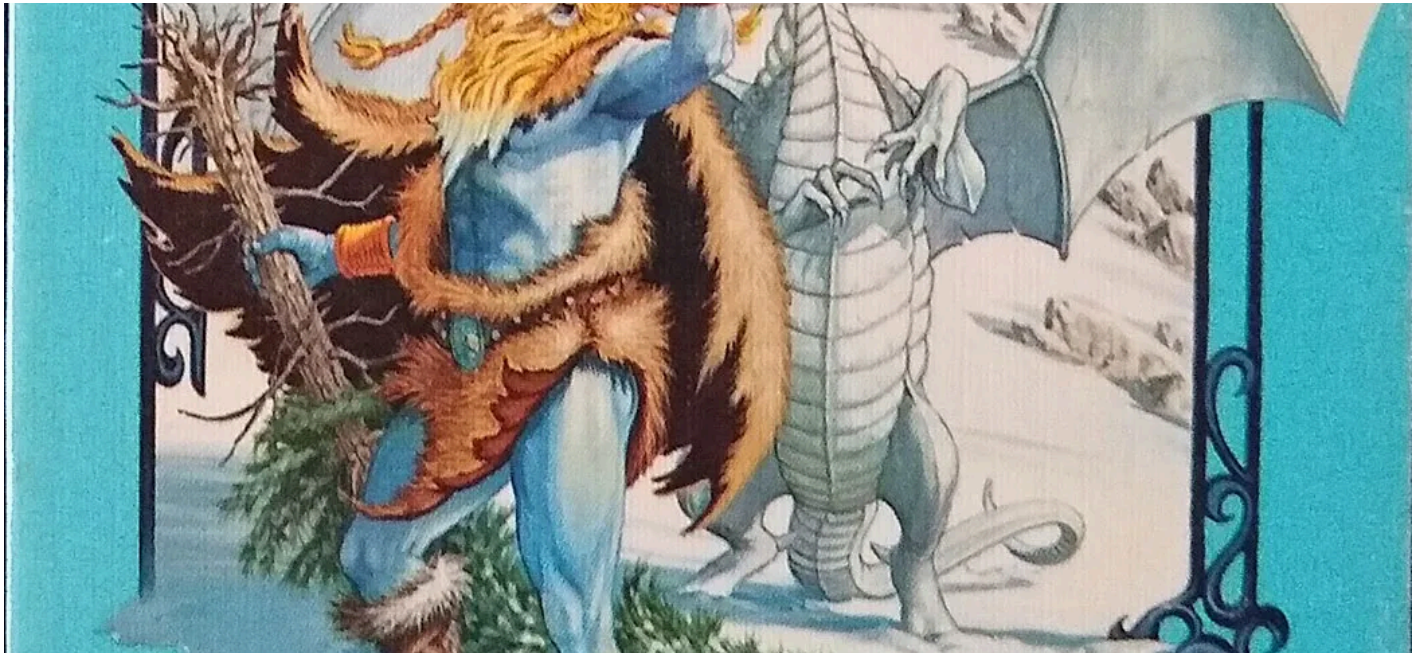
Rose, when I started Rediscovered Realms, I began to discover a lot about the creators behind the scenes of my favorite games, artwork, books & magazines. In my article about TSR's Conan RPG, I tried to discover more about Ruth Hoyer, who's name was listed in so many TSR games, mags and modules. I've asked other TSR employees of the era, including Clyde Caldwell, Jeff Easley, Jeff Butler and Margaret Weis, but can't seem to find out more about her.

She worked her way up to art director and even had a Dragon magazine article featuring her. Do you happen to know anything more about her. Her maiden name looks like it was Ruth Hodges.

RE: I've never even heard of her. She must have come after me.

JQ: Curses! Foiled again in finding out more about Ruth! All my hope now rests in David "Diesel" LaForce - I mean, he is sitting right next to her

in the picture above. May LaForce be with us.

> By the way, this isn't the first time Rediscovered Realms has talked about Rose Estes. In fact, my 1st article was about my original "Mountain of Mirrors" *Endless Quest* book!
>
> ## Reflections in the Mountain of Mirrors
>
> J.Q. GRAZIANO · FEBRUARY 11, 2023
>
> 
>
> I still remember the excitement in elementary school when the Scholastic Bookmobile (pronounced "moe-BEEL") would roll into town. There was something magical about this itinerant book fair caravan that promised fantasy and fun to our youthful imaginations.

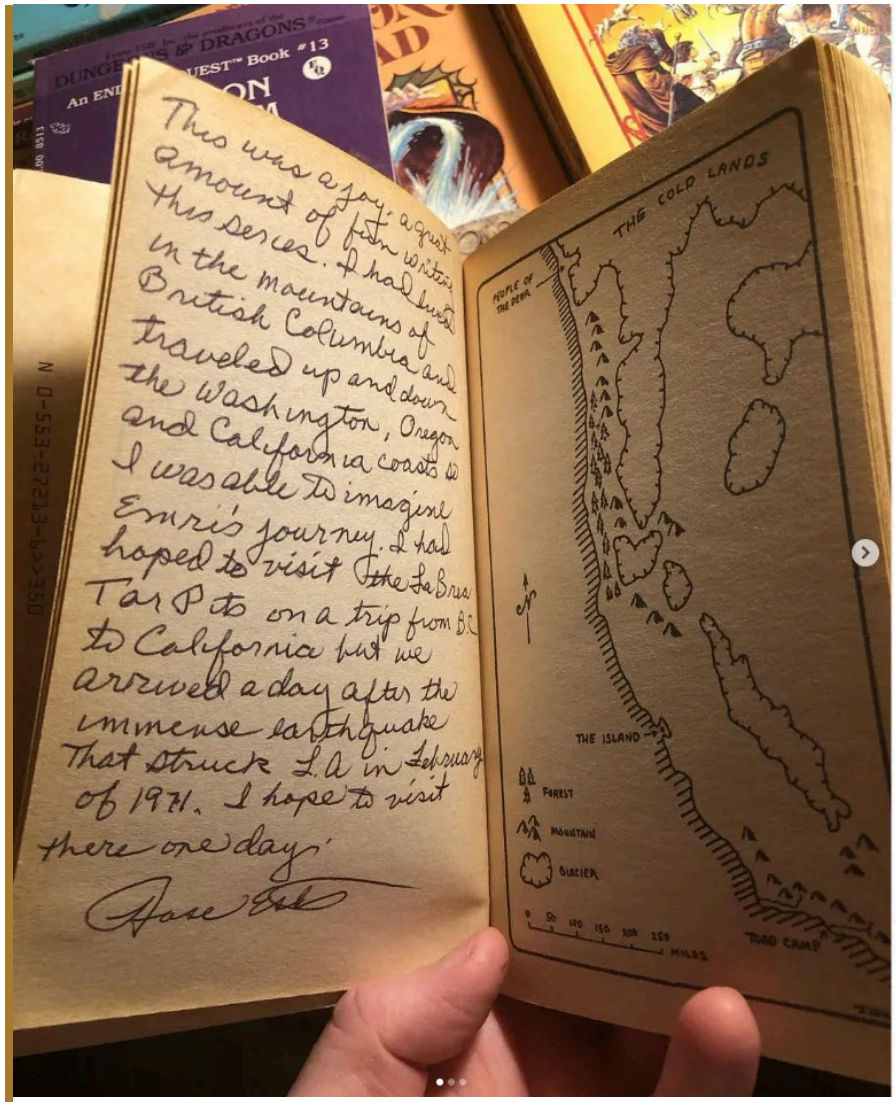
> Read full story →

JQ: Rose, your demonic telesales skills appear to have led you organically & eventually to TSR's Education department. Was this created in response to the "Satanic Panic", or were there other reasons behind the decision?

RE: I don't think that had anything to do with it. I wrote the first four books and they were thrown into production so fast that no one had given any thought to where they would fit into the organization.

I think it only became an issue when we started getting tons of mail from kids and teachers. I don't understand now nor did I understand then why it needed to be a separate division called education. That's the only reason I can think of, teachers and kids. But maybe labeling them education took some of the sting out of the satanic inference.

> **By the way, Rose hardly ever signs books for those who ask** - *she instead inscribes them with personal memories, feelings & history!* (There are some really fascinating gems in these pages)



returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere I asked my mother to sign these books, but the inscriptions she did on her own volition and I think they're what make these signed books so very, very special. I almost always learn something new when I read them and more often than not I get a good laugh as well. What will your inscription reveal? Grab your book, link in bio!

11w

angels_wept We used to go to the LA Brea tar pits every year in grade school on field trips. I hope Rose gets to see it one of these days. The place is a trip. 🦕🦕🦴

11w 1 like Reply

saruman_the_dad711 Your mom is a crack up, that's my favorite part of getting her books from you 😊

11w 2 likes Reply

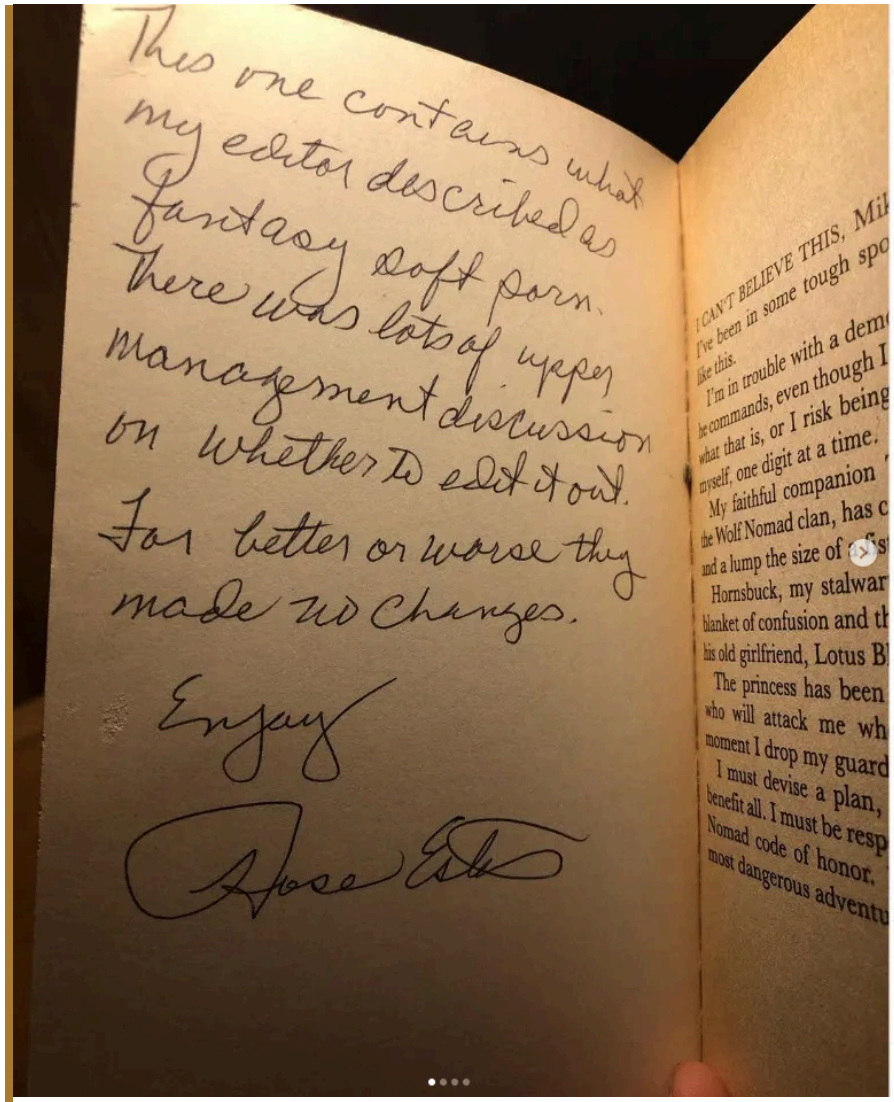
oneofmanyagain It's very cool to get the behind the scenes details 🔥

11w 1 like Reply

Liked by rickfreeman999 and 141 others

JULY 18

Add a comment... Post



returntobrookmere ...

returntobrookmere In addition to an autograph, each of of my mother's signed books come with an inscription, each personal and honest (sometimes shockingly so!) 😮😊😘

15w

johngaltguss My curiosity is piqued. Dragon of Doom with only tragic endings? That would make for quite the reading experience. 😄 Also, which title was that first inscription for? 🤔

15w 1 like Reply

Hide replies

returntobrookmere @johngaltguss I'll DM you with the details!

15w 1 like Reply

pilgrimomega These are wonderful little anecdotes. Love it!

15w 1 like Reply

suzannemich Wait, did your mom write a Star Wars book? I'm trying to place the George Lucas comment 😄 these captions are priceless!

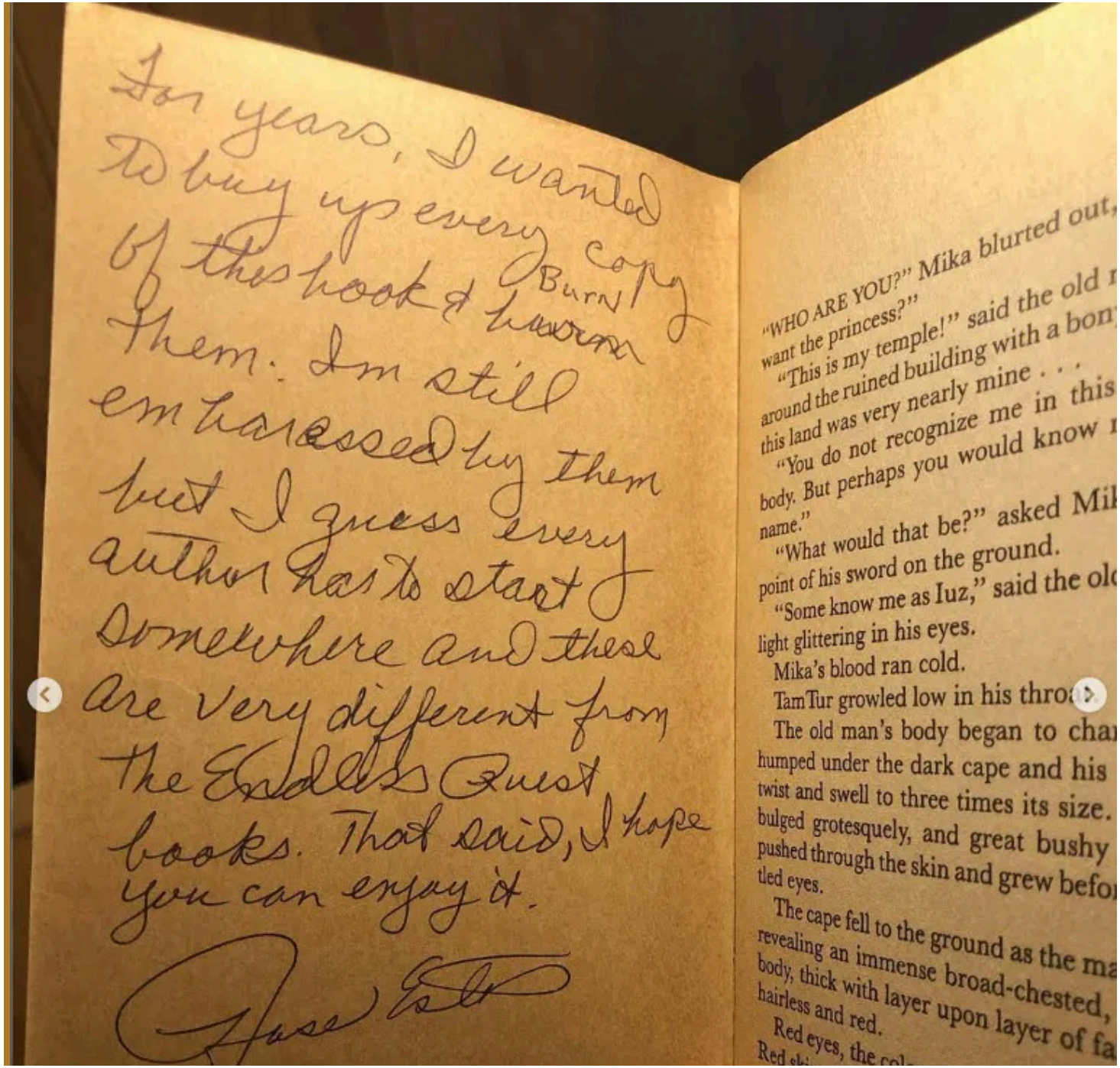
15w 1 like Reply

View replies (1)

Liked by **jordhammer** and **72 others**

JUNE 20

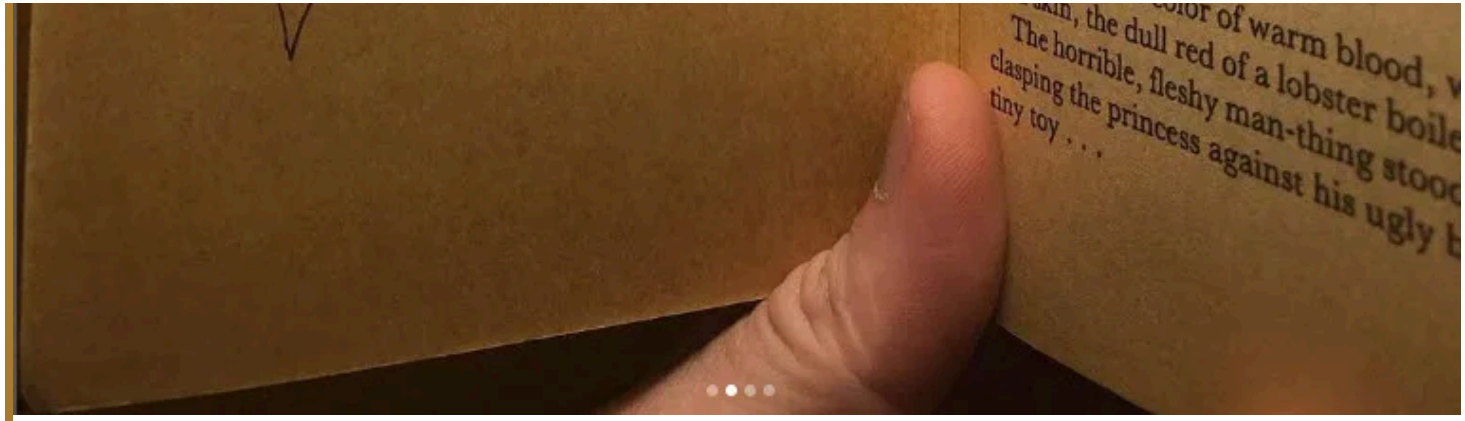
Add a comment... Post



For years, I wanted to buy up every copy of this book & burn them. I'm still embarrassed by them but I guess every author has to start somewhere and these are very different from the Endless Quest books. That said, I hope you can enjoy it.

Rose Estes

"WHO ARE YOU?" Mika blurted out,
want the princess?"
"This is my temple!" said the old r
around the ruined building with a bon
this land was very nearly mine . . .
"You do not recognize me in this
body. But perhaps you would know r
name."
"What would that be?" asked Mil
point of his sword on the ground.
"Some know me as Iuz," said the old
light glittering in his eyes.
Mika's blood ran cold.
TamTur growled low in his throa
The old man's body began to char
humped under the dark cape and his
twist and swell to three times its size.
bulged grotesquely, and great bushy
pushed through the skin and grew befor
tled eyes.
The cape fell to the ground as the ma
revealing an immense broad-chested,
body, thick with layer upon layer of fa
hairless and red.
Red eyes, the col
Red ski


color of warm blood,
kin, the dull red of a lobster boile
The horrible, fleshy man-thing stood
clasping the princess against his ugly b
tiny toy . . .

This is a rare hardback version of this book. After I wrote it I was sent tickets for myself and a group of friends to every premiere of the movies as they were released. I became very popular with co-workers and my children's friends. I also received hand signed Christmas cards from George Lucas for five years. I researched the background through my collection of ancient National Geographics. I knew they'd come in handy one day!

Enjoy,

This was the last Endless Quest I wrote for TSR. And by this time I was heartily sick of writing them. By the time I wrote this one, there were no right choices. No matter which choice, there was only death. They made me change that before it was published. Spoil sports!

SHARING INTO THE EYES OF DEATH

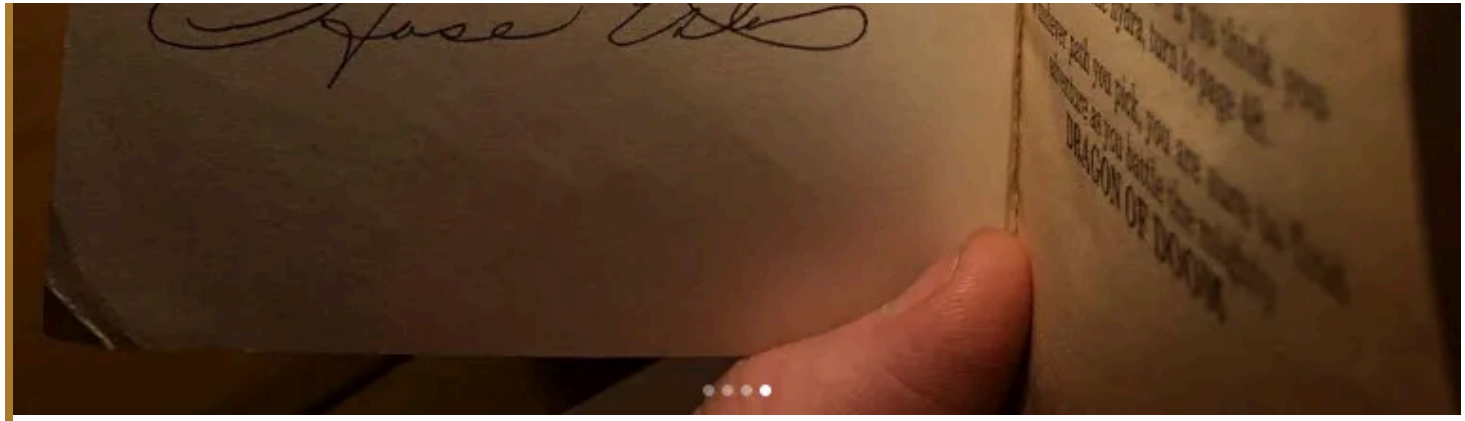
Was will you do?

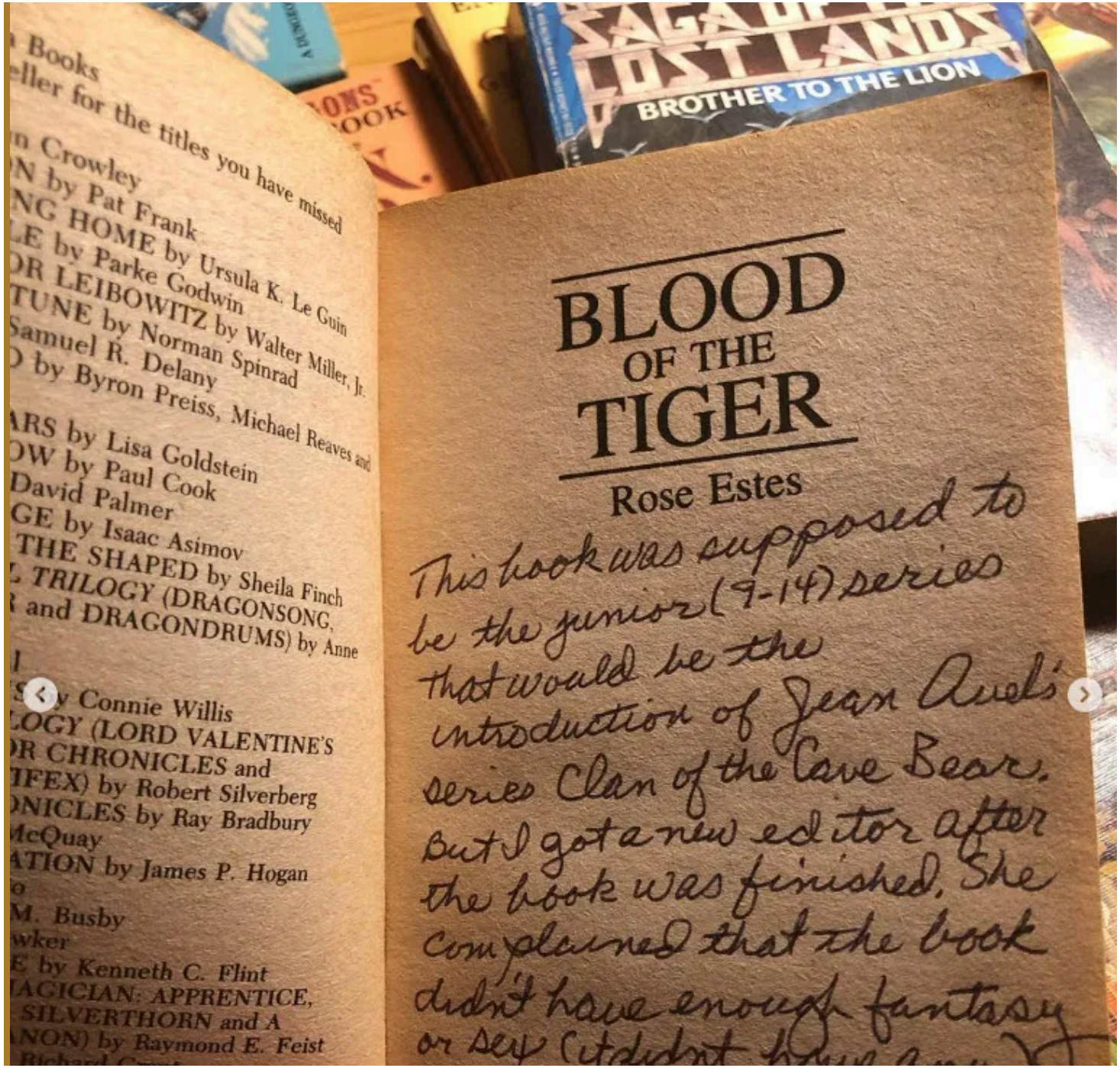
1) "Maybe I can fight it." If this is what you decide, turn to page 140.

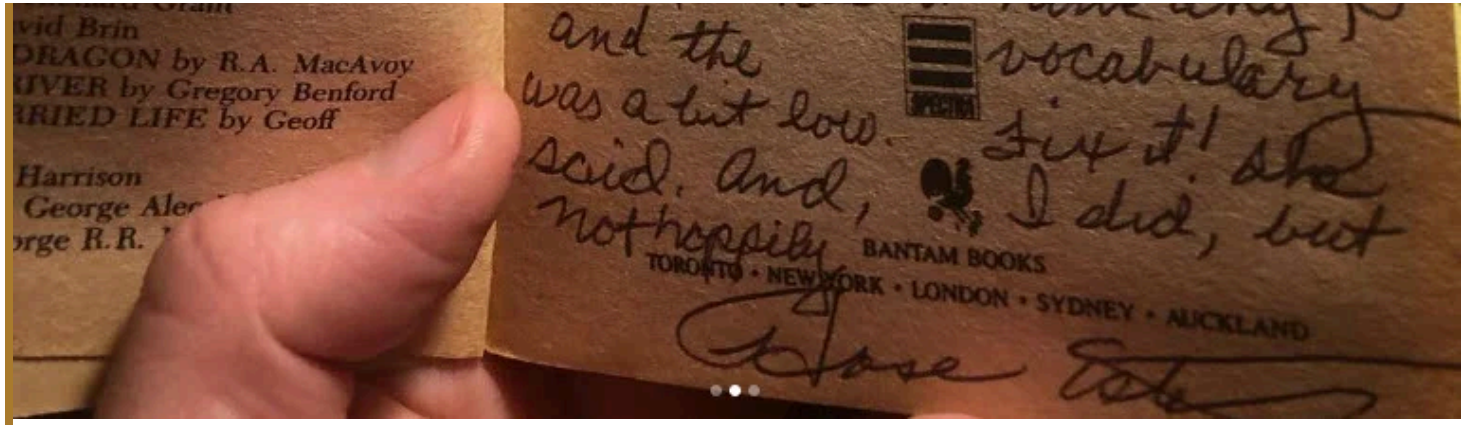
3) "Maybe it hasn't seen us yet and we can run away." If this is your decision, turn to page 77.

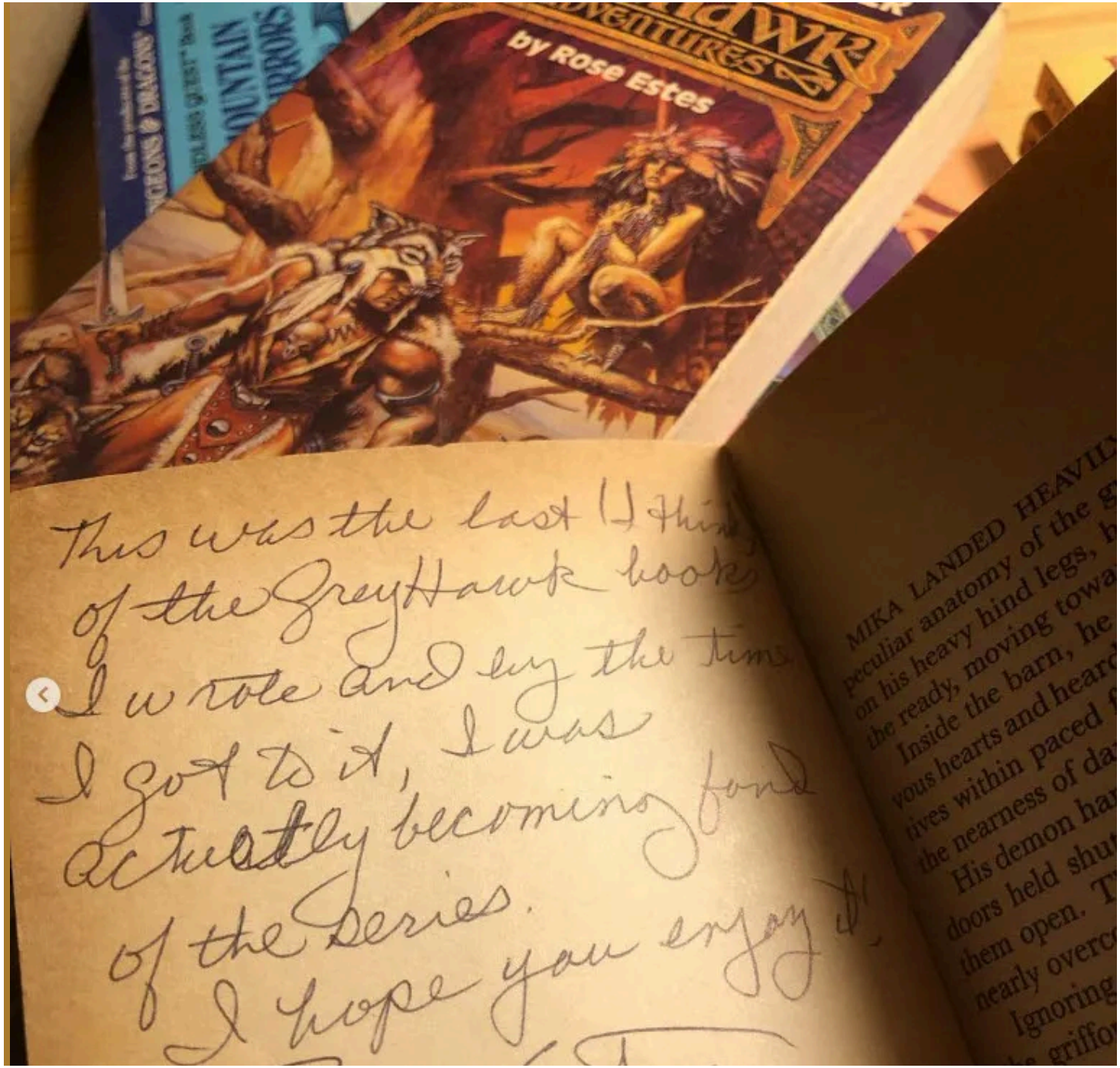
4) "Maybe I can use my magical Ring of Wishes." If you want to use the ring, turn to page 47.

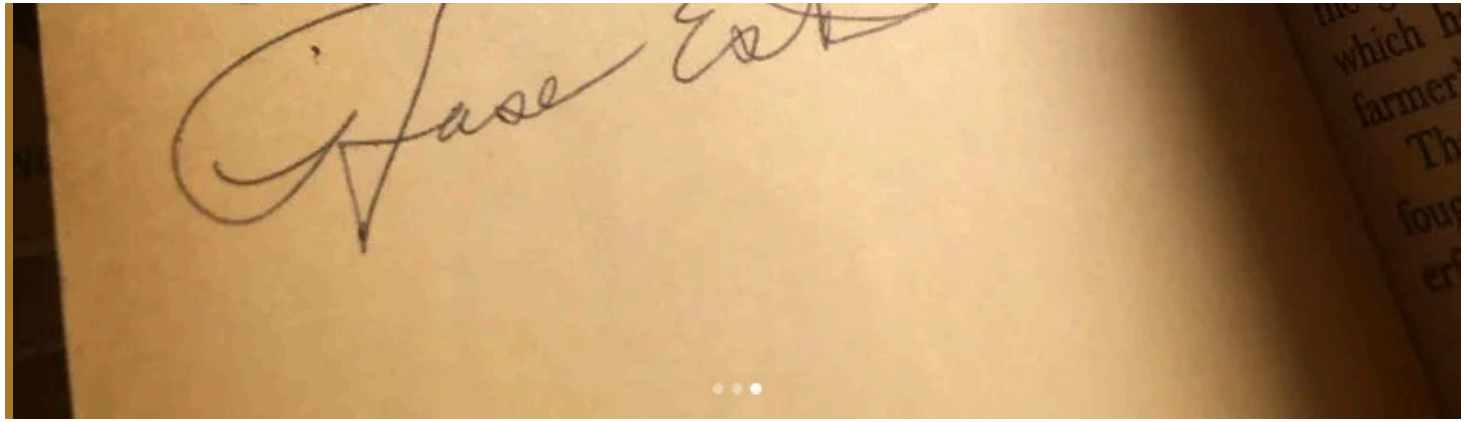
2) "Maybe I can trick it." If


DRAGON OF DOOM


Books
eller for the titles you have missed
n Crowley
N by Pat Frank
NG HOME by Ursula K. Le Guin
LE by Parke Godwin
OR LEIBOWITZ by Walter Miller, Jr.
TUNE by Norman Spinrad
Samuel R. Delany
D by Byron Preiss, Michael Reaves and
ARS by Lisa Goldstein
OW by Paul Cook
David Palmer
GE by Isaac Asimov
THE SHAPED by Sheila Finch
TRILOGY (DRAGONSONG,
and DRAGONDRUMS) by Anne
y Connie Willis
LOGY (LORD VALENTINE'S
OR CHRONICLES and
IFEX) by Robert Silverberg
ONICLES by Ray Bradbury
McQuay
ATION by James P. Hogan
M. Busby
wker
E by Kenneth C. Flint
AGICIAN: APPRENTICE,
SILVERTHORN and A
NON) by Raymond E. Feist
SAGA OF THE LOST LANDS
BROTHER TO THE LION
BLOOD OF THE TIGER
Rose Estes
This book was supposed to be the junior (9-14) series that would be the introduction of Jean Auel's series Clan of the Cave Bear. But I got a new editor after the book was finished. She complained that the book didn't have enough fantasy or sex (it didn't have


vid Brin
DRAGON by R.A. MacAvoy
IVER by Gregory Benford
RIED LIFE by Geoff
Harrison
George Ale
orge R.R.
and the vocabulary
was a bit low. Fix it! she
said. And, I did, but
not happily
BANTAM BOOKS
TORONTO • NEW YORK • LONDON • SYDNEY • AUCKLAND
Rose Estes

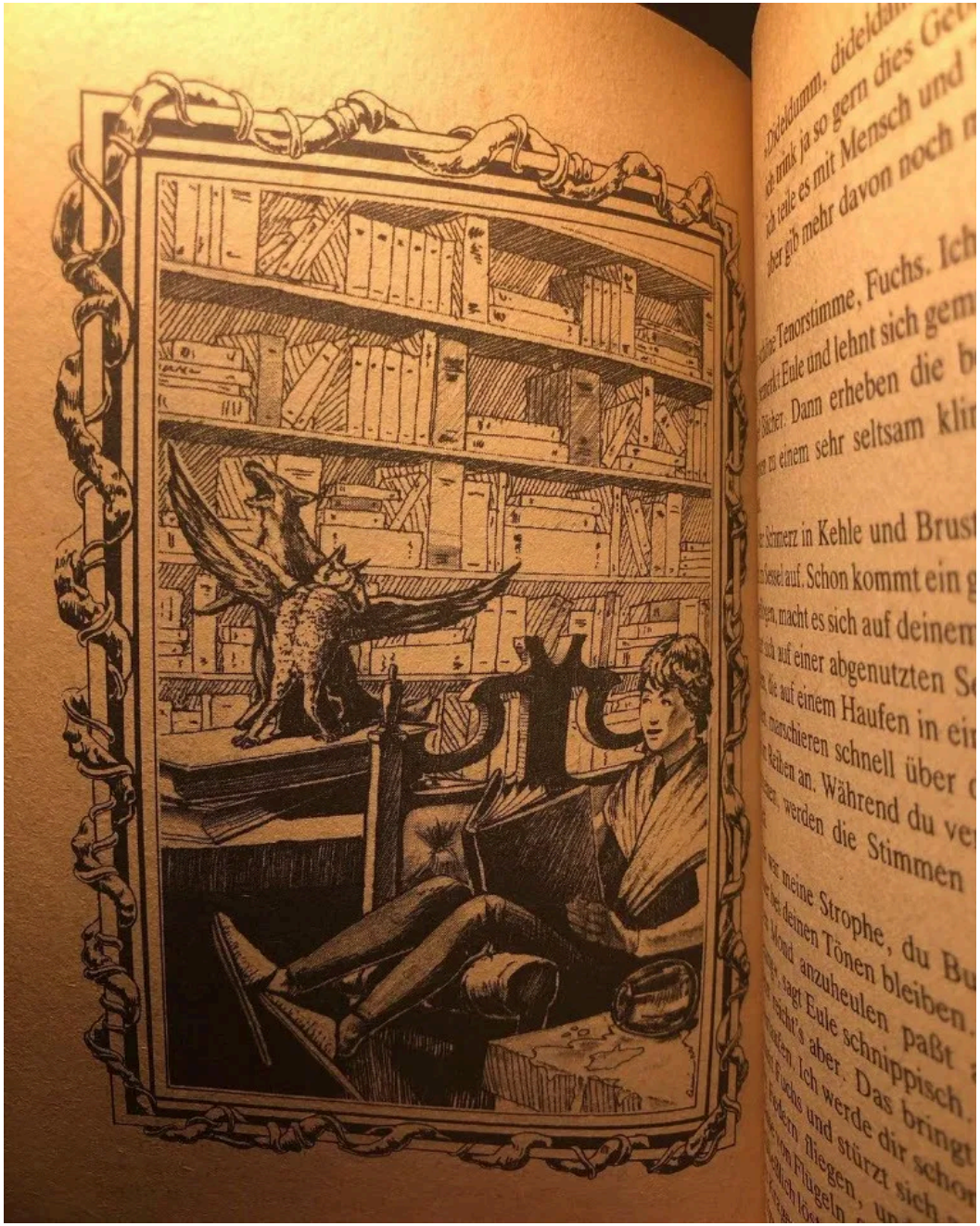

by Rose Estes
This was the last (I think)
of the GreyHawk books
I wrote and by the time
I got to it, I was
actually becoming fond
of the series.
I hope you enjoy it!
MIKA LANDED HEAVIL
peculiar anatomy of the g
on his heavy hind legs, h
the ready, moving towa
Inside the barn, he
vous hearts and heard
tives within paced f
the nearness of da
His demon ha
doors held shut
them open. T
nearly overco
Ignoring



JQ: It sounds like you were acquainted with and were instrumental in the hiring of Jean Black (Blashfield), who headed that Education department. Does that sound right?

RE: Jim Ward was our boss. I loved working with Jim and he was much better at interfacing with management than I was. He mostly left us alone.

Jean was a sweetheart. She and I were called into a meeting with Duke Siefert where management of the "department" was discussed. I didn't realize it was essentially an interview. The subject of spreadsheets came up. I'd never heard of them and said so. Jean had. She was made head of the department. Which was fine with me. I just wanted to be left alone and write. I could not have handled all the meetings and associated crap and ridiculous reports and paperwork. Not my thing.

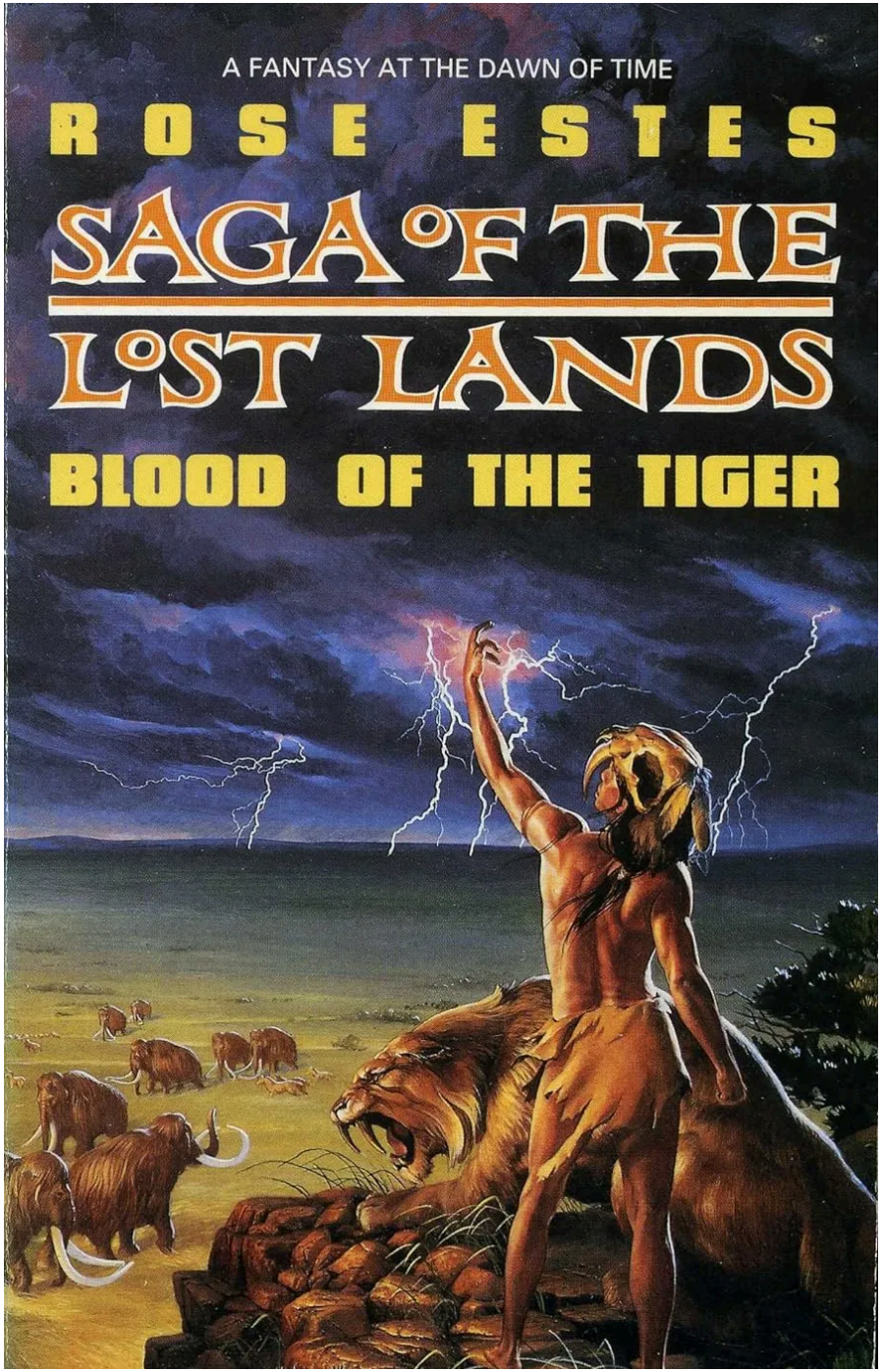


Art by Harry Quinn, from “Revenge of the Rainbow Dragons” Endless Quest book

JQ: You and me both - I hate useless meetings & reports!

I also understand that Jean - who you helped get hired - wound up hiring Margaret Weis, half the creative team of Dragonlance fame. So, the way I look at it, Rose, you were single-handedly responsible for bringing Dragonlance into our world too! Another childhood watershed moment for me and millions of others. How does that strike you?

RE: I didn't know that either! Dragonlance took fantasy to a whole different level for me as well. Hard to take any credit for that though. Just a happy occurrence no matter how it came about.


A FANTASY AT THE DAWN OF TIME
ROSE ESTES
SAGA OF THE
LOST LANDS
BLOOD OF THE TIGER

Cover artist: Pamela Lee

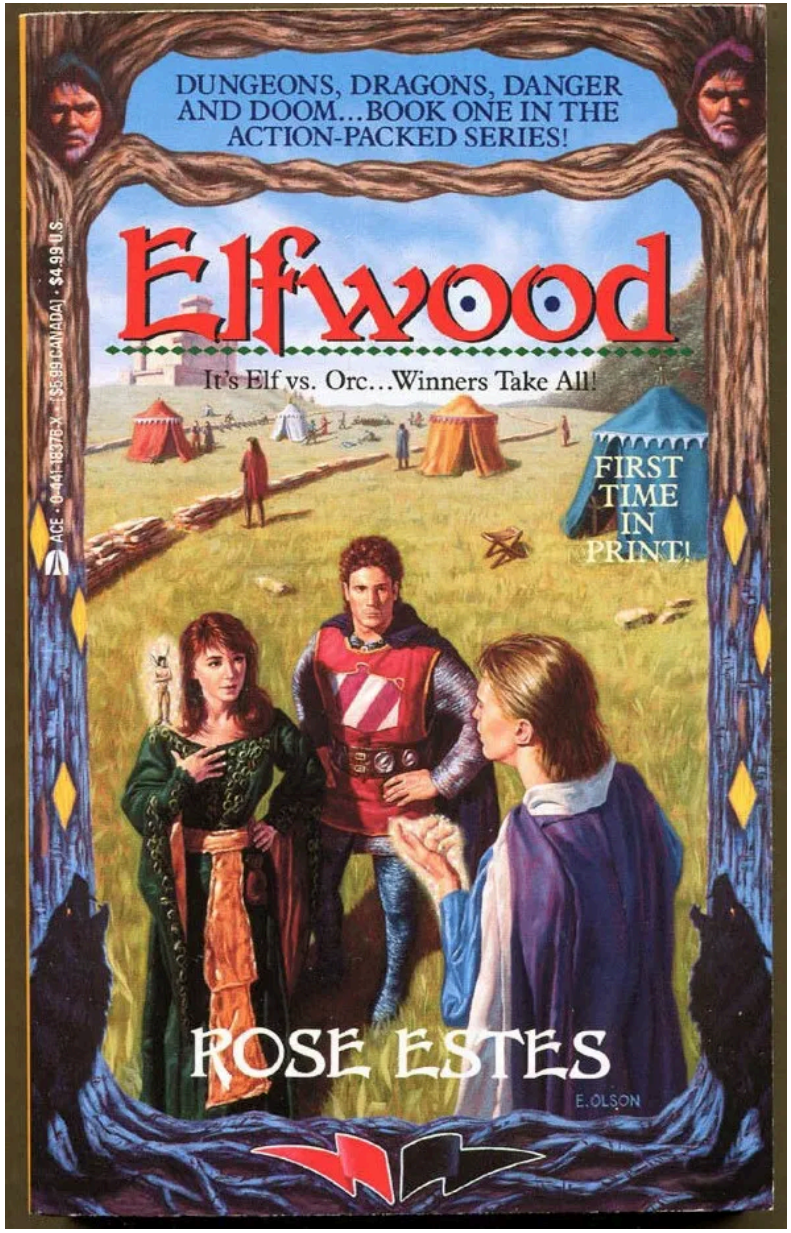
JQ: In the shadows and lore of TSR, there were tales of educational adventures that were created using *D&D* to teach academic subjects – adventures that were never released to the public. Were you involved with any of these, and if so, what do you remember?

RE: Boy, I'm certainly sounding clueless here. But, it should be mentioned that I was the very last person to leave the Hotel Clair in downtown Lake Geneva where we were based when I was hired. I never went to the new building.

I'm extremely claustrophobic and the building had no windows. I had to get a note from my doctor saying so! At that point, they let me write from home. I was the first person to do that. I don't know anything about this.

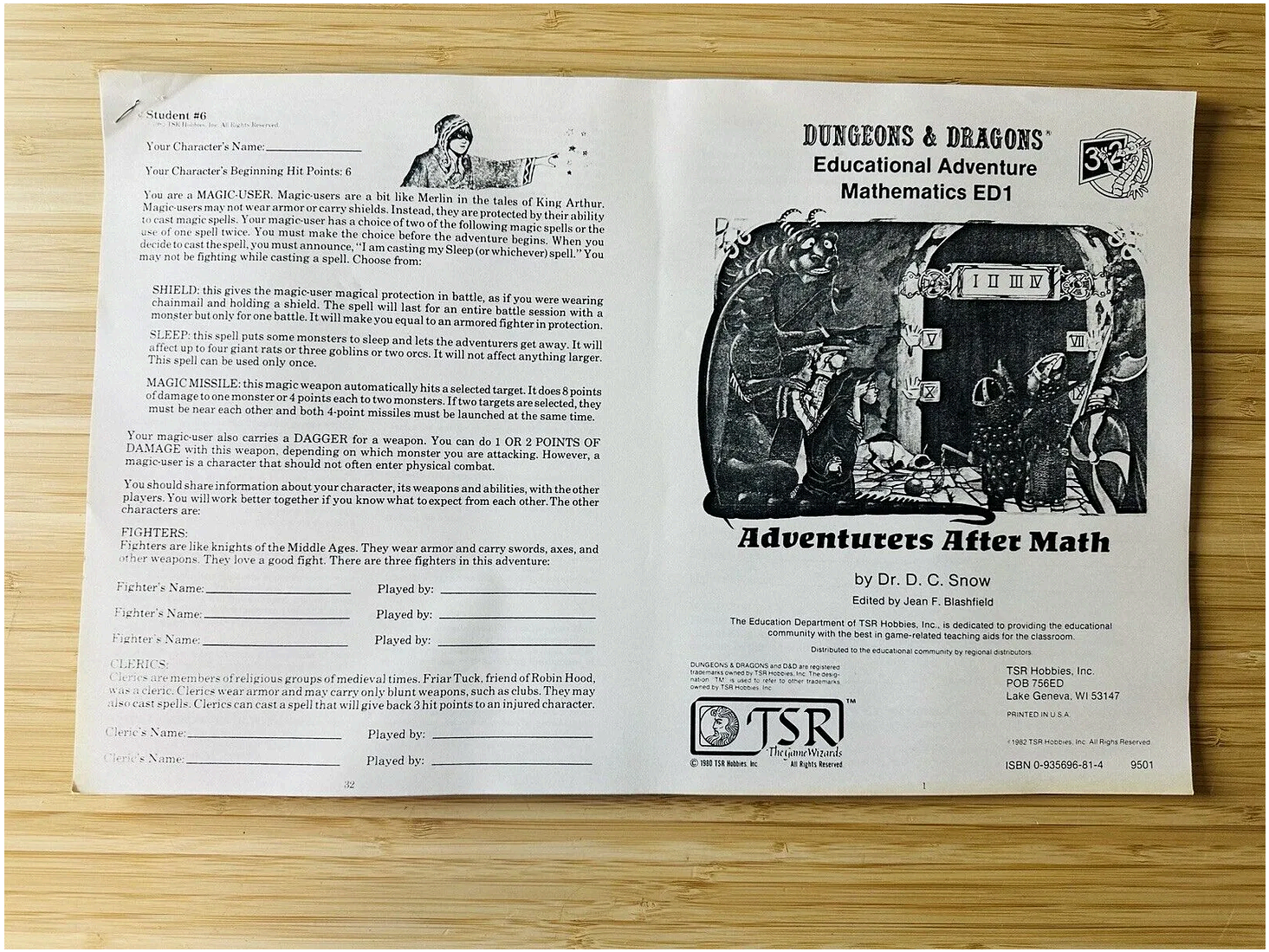
Sadly, Jean Black has passed on, entirely too early! But Jim Ward would be the person to ask. I really had zero interaction with management at this point. I had deadlines and I wrote. That was pretty much it.

The atmosphere had changed dramatically from the early days when we were all part of the whole, working closely toward a common goal. It had become corporate. I was not a corporate type person and could not fit into that mold.



Cover artist: Erik Olson

JQ: No problem, but I bet you'll find this interesting - recently, Jim Ward has been unloading some of his TSR possessions on eBay, and I came across these! (Some other lucky collector(s) won them however)



Student #6

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Your Character's Name: _____

Your Character's Beginning Hit Points: 6

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Fighters are like knights of the Middle Ages. They wear armor and carry swords, axes, and other weapons. They love a good fight. There are three fighters in this adventure:

Fighter's Name: _____ Played by: _____

Fighter's Name: _____ Played by: _____

Fighter's Name: _____ Played by: _____

CLERICS:
Clerics are members of religious groups of medieval times. Friar Tuck, friend of Robin Hood, was a cleric. Clerics wear armor and may carry only blunt weapons, such as clubs. They may also cast spells. Clerics can cast a spell that will give back 3 hit points to an injured character.

Cleric's Name: _____ Played by: _____

Cleric's Name: _____ Played by: _____

32

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®
Educational Adventure
Mathematics ED1

Adventurers After Math

by Dr. D. C. Snow

Edited by Jean F. Blashfield

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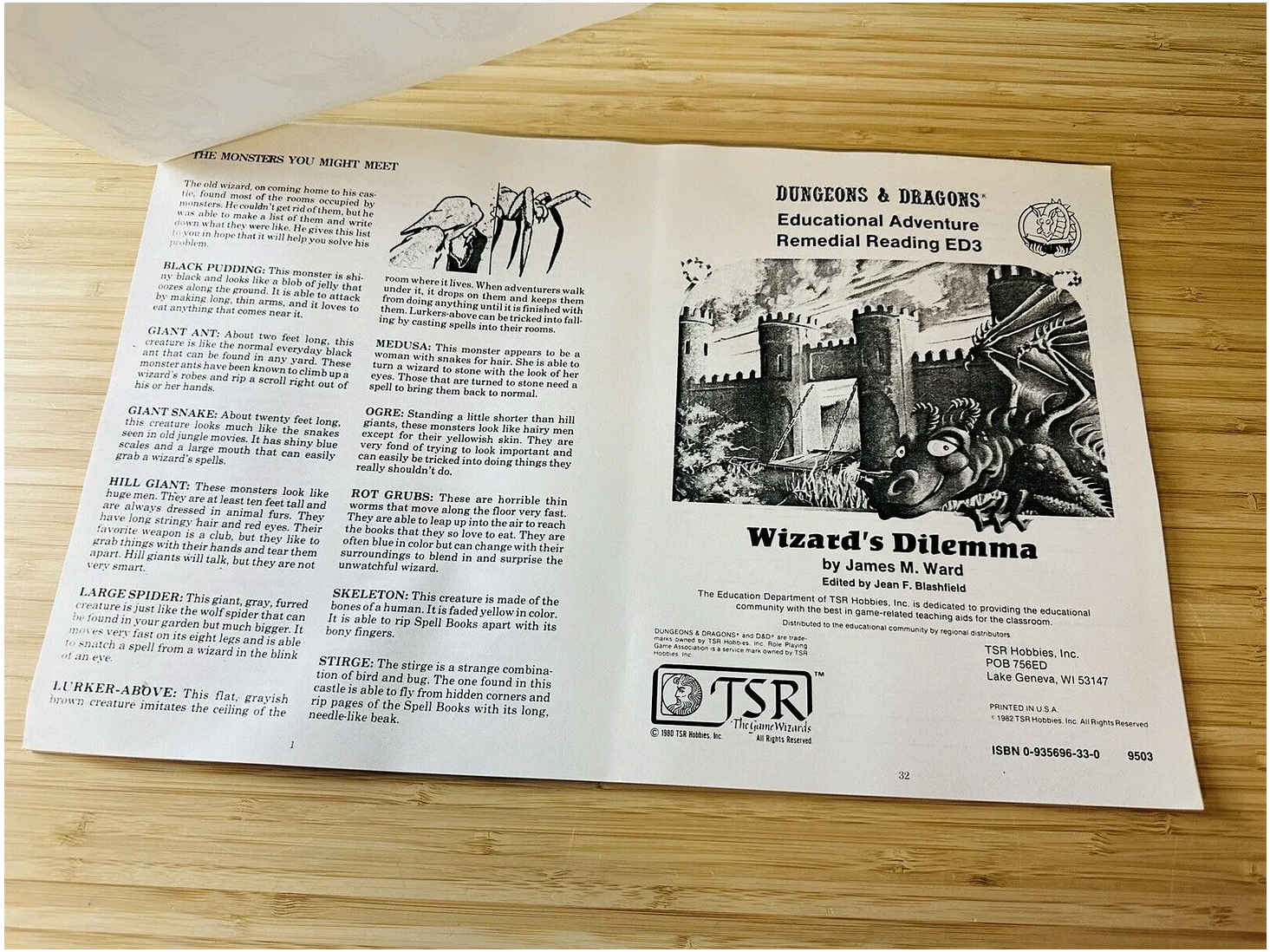
1

Learn math - D&D style!



THE MONSTERS YOU MIGHT MEET

The old wizard, on coming home to his castle, found most of the rooms occupied by monsters. He couldn't get rid of them, but he was able to make a list of them and write down what they were like. He gives this list to you in hope that it will help you solve his problem.

BLACK PUDDING: This monster is shiny black and looks like a blob of jelly that oozes along the ground. It is able to attack by making long, thin arms, and it loves to eat anything that comes near it.

GIANT ANT: About two feet long, this creature is like the normal everyday black ant that can be found in any yard. These monster ants have been known to climb up a wizard's robes and rip a scroll right out of his or her hands.

GIANT SNAKE: About twenty feet long, this creature looks much like the snakes seen in old jungle movies. It has shiny blue scales and a large mouth that can easily grab a wizard's spells.

HILL GIANT: These monsters look like huge men. They are at least ten feet tall and are always dressed in animal furs. They have long stringy hair and red eyes. Their favorite weapon is a club, but they like to grab things with their hands and tear them apart. Hill giants will talk, but they are not very smart.

LARGE SPIDER: This giant, gray, furred creature is just like the wolf spider that can be found in your garden but much bigger. It moves very fast on its eight legs and is able to snatch a spell from a wizard in the blink of an eye.

LURKER-ABOVE: This flat, grayish brown creature imitates the ceiling of the room where it lives. When adventurers walk under it, it drops on them and keeps them from doing anything until it is finished with them. Lurkers-above can be tricked into falling by casting spells into their rooms.

MEDUSA: This monster appears to be a woman with snakes for hair. She is able to turn a wizard to stone with the look of her eyes. Those that are turned to stone need a spell to bring them back to normal.

OGRE: Standing a little shorter than hill giants, these monsters look like hairy men except for their yellowish skin. They are very fond of trying to look important and can easily be tricked into doing things they really shouldn't do.

ROT GRUBS: These are horrible thin worms that move along the floor very fast. They are able to leap up into the air to reach the books that they so love to eat. They are often blue in color but can change with their surroundings to blend in and surprise the unwatchful wizard.

SKELETON: This creature is made of the bones of a human. It is faded yellow in color. It is able to rip Spell Books apart with its bony fingers.

STIRGE: The stirge is a strange combination of bird and bug. The one found in this castle is able to fly from hidden corners and rip pages of the Spell Books with its long, needle-like beak.

1

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®
Educational Adventure
Remedial Reading ED3

Wizard's Dilemma
by James M. Ward
Edited by Jean F. Blashfield

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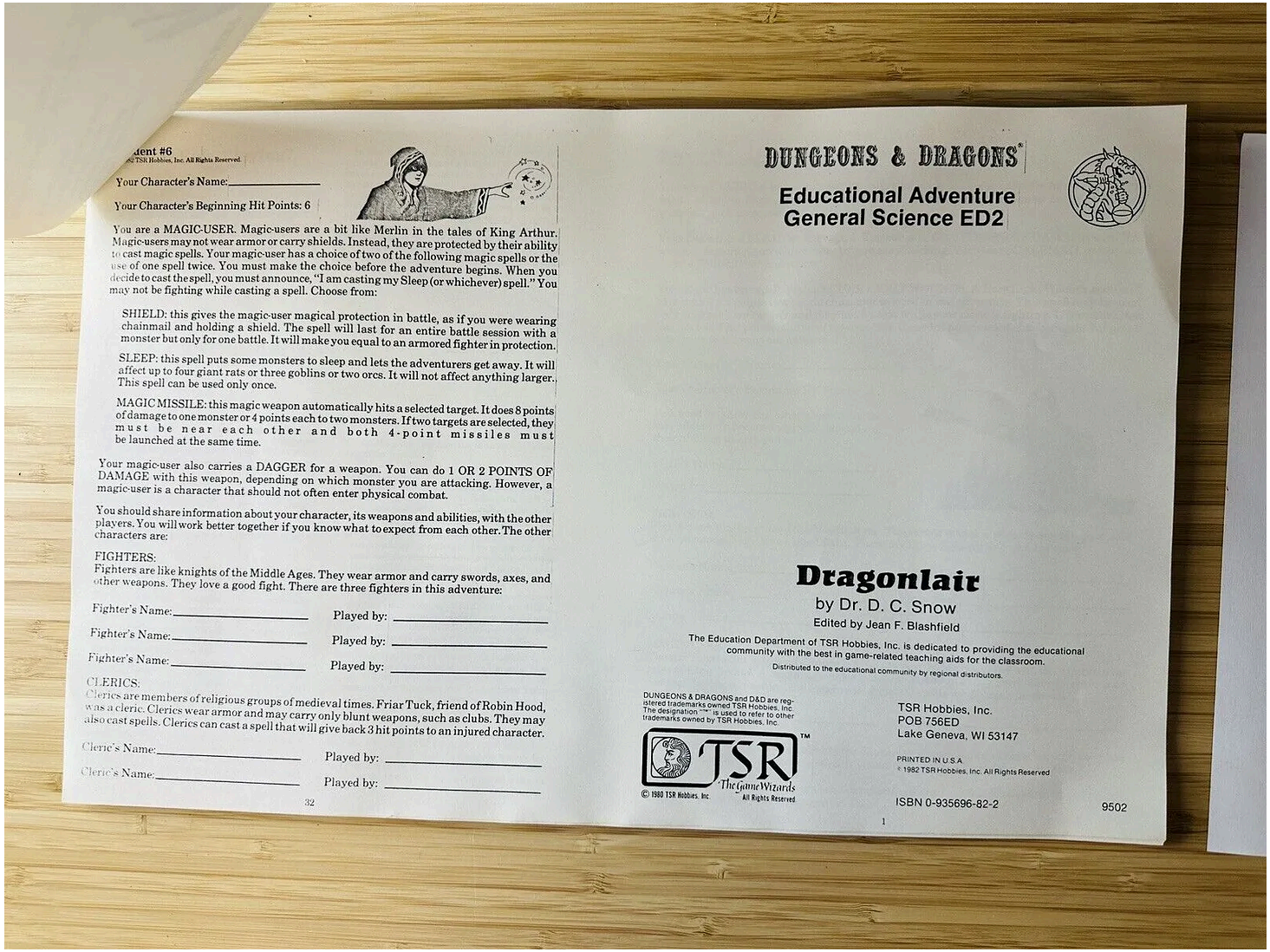
ISBN 0-935696-33-0 9503

32

Don't read so good? Then this may be the remediation you need to level-up!



dent #6
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Cleric's Name:_____ Played by: _____

Cleric's Name:_____ Played by: _____

32

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®

Educational Adventure
General Science ED2

Dragonlair

by Dr. D. C. Snow

Edited by Jean F. Blashfield

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1

What has "science" got to do with D&D? I don't know, but I would definitely like to find out, probably with a Scry spell.

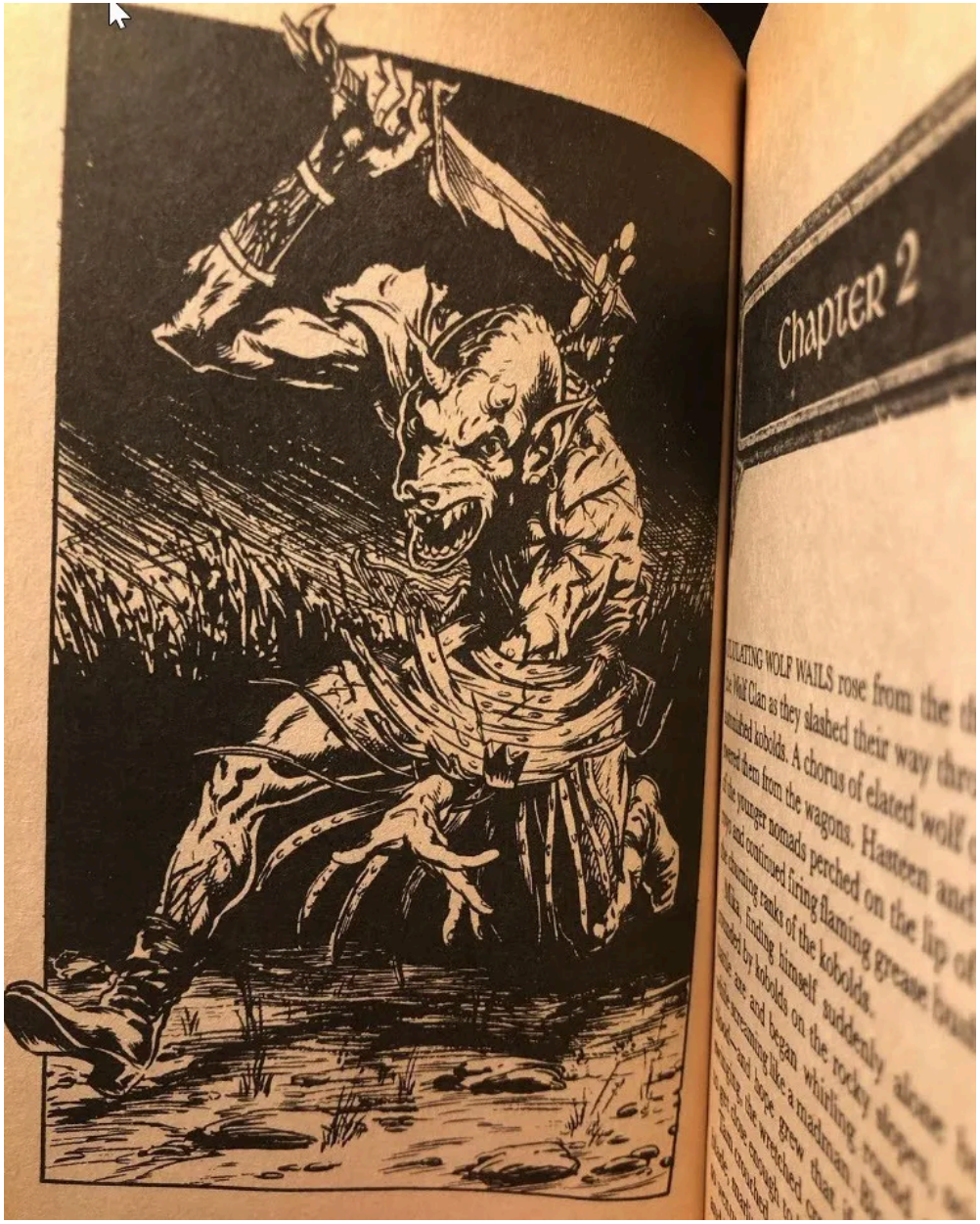
RE: It makes me shudder. I could never have done that.

JQ: LOL! Who was Dr. Snow? I wasn’t able to find any other information on him.

RE: Don Snow was a really terrific guy. I liked him a lot. He was brought on before the corporate building existed. I reported to him. We got along well. He gave me a lot of good advice on how to interact with management.

I recently found a folder of personnel comments on my employment. It was reported [not by Don Snow] that "I was difficult to control." I have to say that I found that very hurtful.

Don's method of working with me was to act as an interface between management and myself. I literally had no contact with them, everything went through Don and he did not try to control me. As long as I met my deadlines, everything was cool. And I always did. Except once when I accidentally erased an entire book and had to rewrite it in a week.



The Book Collector. “Your week is up, Rose! I’m here to pick up that rewrite!” (Art by Bart Sears, from “Master Wolf” Greyhawk Adventures book)

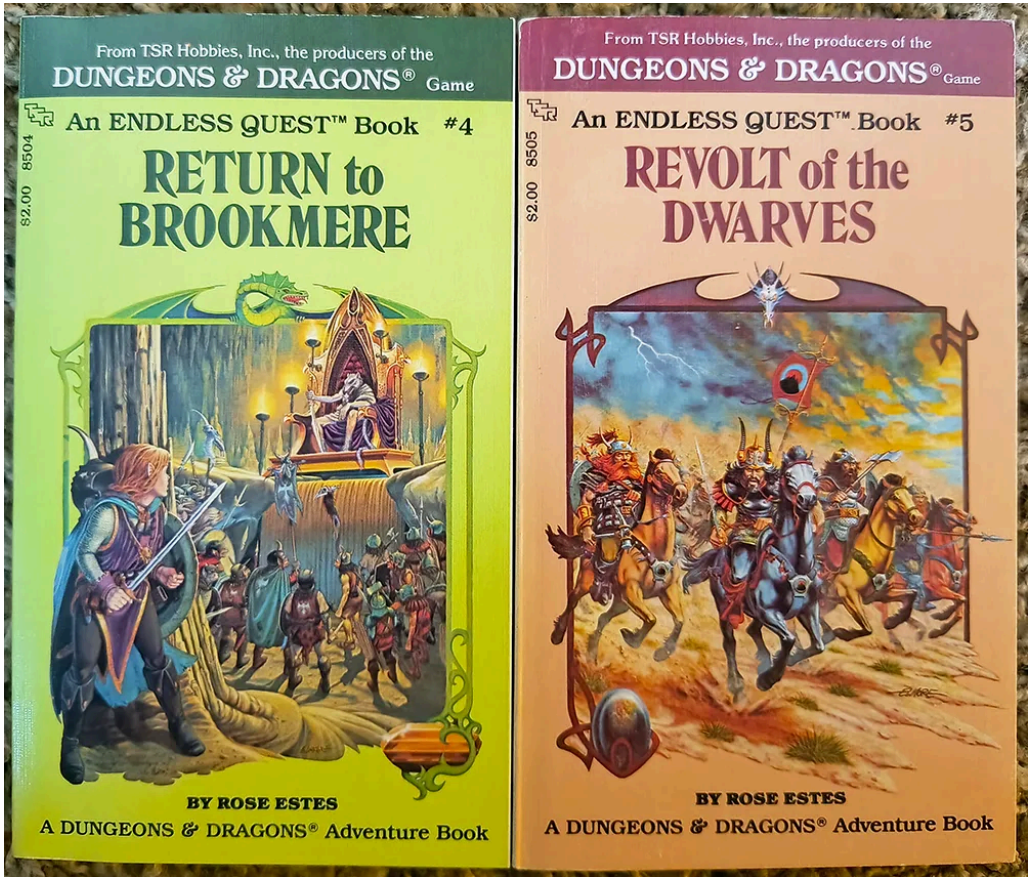
JQ: Rewrite an entire book in a week?! That'll teach ya.

Ok, so I can't wait any longer to talk with you about your *Endless Quest* books. There have been so many other excellent interviews where you have related their origin story. Let me consolidate them and recap my understanding of events here:

1. **You were working at TSR when you asked for a leave of absence to join the circus for a month at the invitation of a circus employee you already knew. You were going to use the experience as inspiration for future articles/writing newspapers.**
2. **A week or so in, at a laundromat doing your laundry, minding your own business, you noticed one of R.A. Montgomery's Choose Your Own Adventure books on a bookshelf where in those days you could read the laundromat books or buy them for a quarter.**

Cover artist: Larry Elmore

3. **In your own words, “I realized within a few pages, it was exactly what TSR needed to do to make people understand D&D”**
4. **So, leaving $0.25 and taking the book, you cut your bigtop excursion short, rushed back to TSR to share your finding and excitement with your boss to the response of . . . crickets**



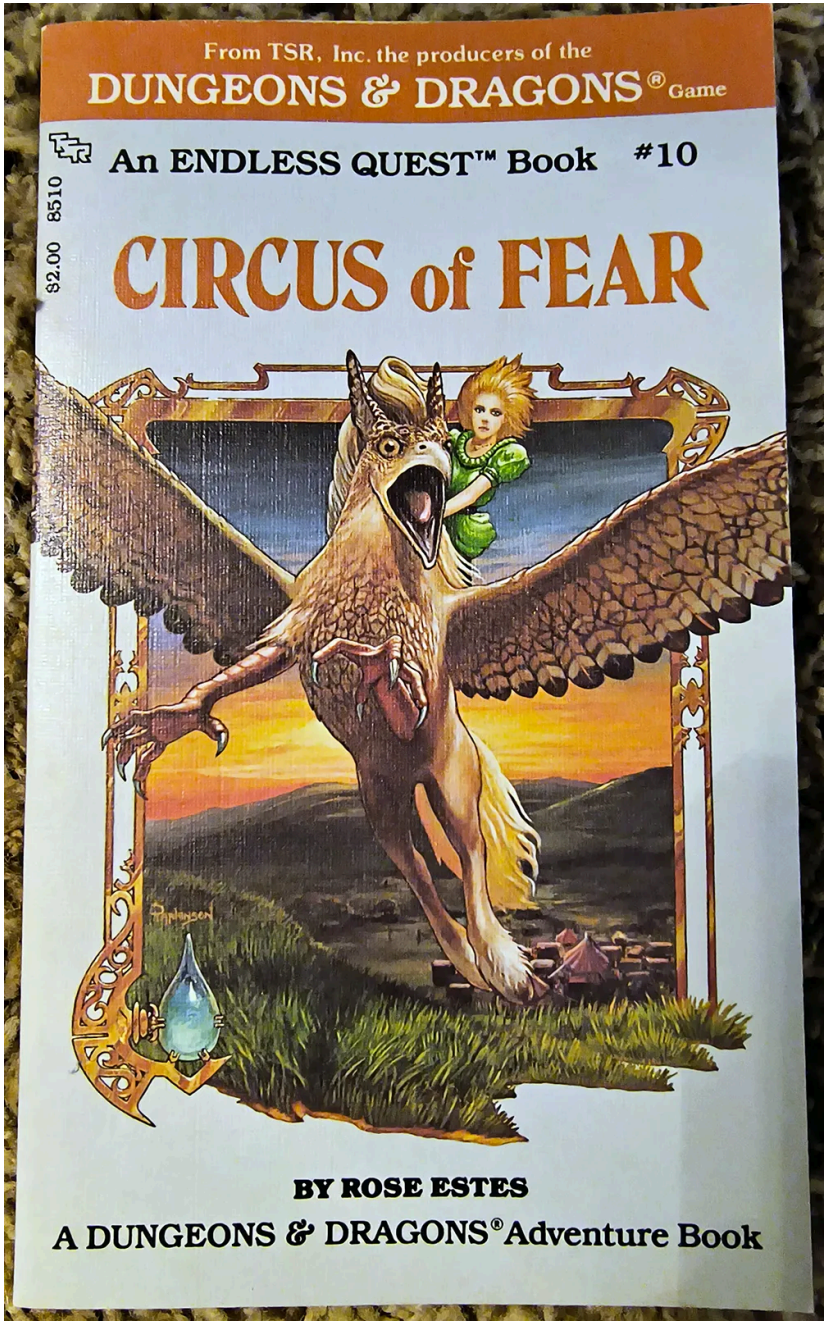
Cover artist: Larry Elmore

5. **Your boss wasn't interested, and after several of your follow-ups he tried to get you out of his hair by telling you to write it yourself.**

"I'd never written fiction. But I was so mad—Don't tell me I can't do something—so I did it." — Rose Estes

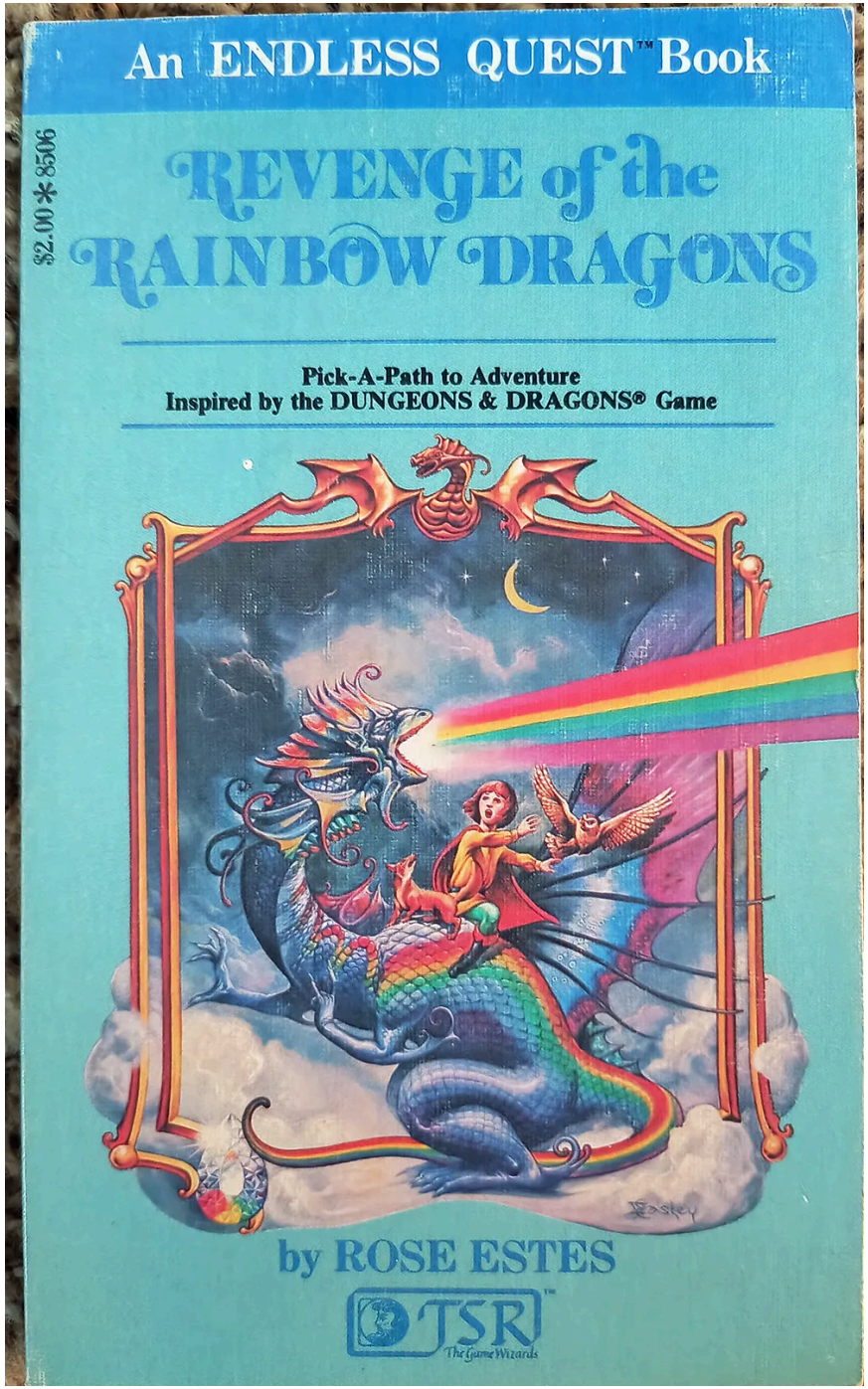
---

6. **You took it as a personal challenge and used your personal time on nights and weekends outside of work with yellow legal pads to write out by hand, “Return to Brookmere”.**



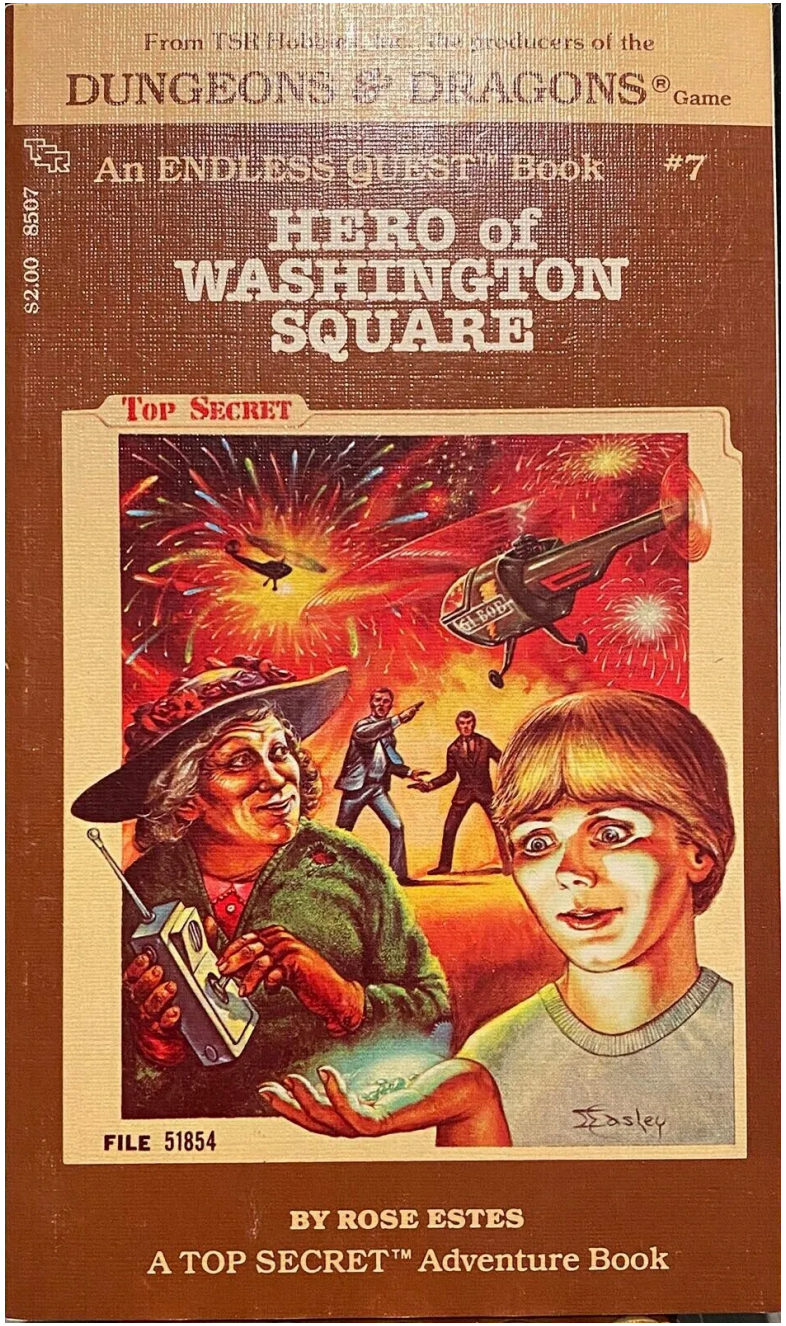
Cover artist: Keith Parkinson

7. **Providing said manuscript to uninspired boss led to it sitting on his desk, gathering dust - probably being used as a coffee coaster. And some things that should not have been forgotten were lost . . .**
8. **Until The One Book came to a new owner. Said boss went to a Penguin-Random House book conference in Puerto Rico in early January. Upon his return, your boss became suddenly inspired to find the discarded Brookmere printed manuscript within the piles on his desk, wipe off his coffee mug and Cup-A-Soup stains, then drop it in front of you, saying, “write three more, I need them by April 1st”.**


An ENDLESS QUEST™ Book
REVENGE of the RAINBOW DRAGONS
Pick-A-Path to Adventure
Inspired by the DUNGEONS & DRAGONS® Game
by ROSE ESTES
TSR
The Game Wizards
$2.00 * 8506

Cover artist: Jeff Easley

9. **You see, what had happened at that conference was Penguin-Random House had some D&D licensing at the time and asked if TSR had any non-module stuff. Your boss lost no time in telling them about your manuscript. They saw the opportunity and how the world had gone wild with CYOA books and Bantam's sales of these books. They wanted it. They needed it, but wouldn't buy one unless they could buy 4 - and they needed all four in just 3 months!**



Cover artist: Jeff Easley

10. **So off you went, with your boss' newfound staunch belief & support (not really) to create the first 4 of these wonderful books.**

"I can be maddeningly persistent if I believe in something." - Rose Estes

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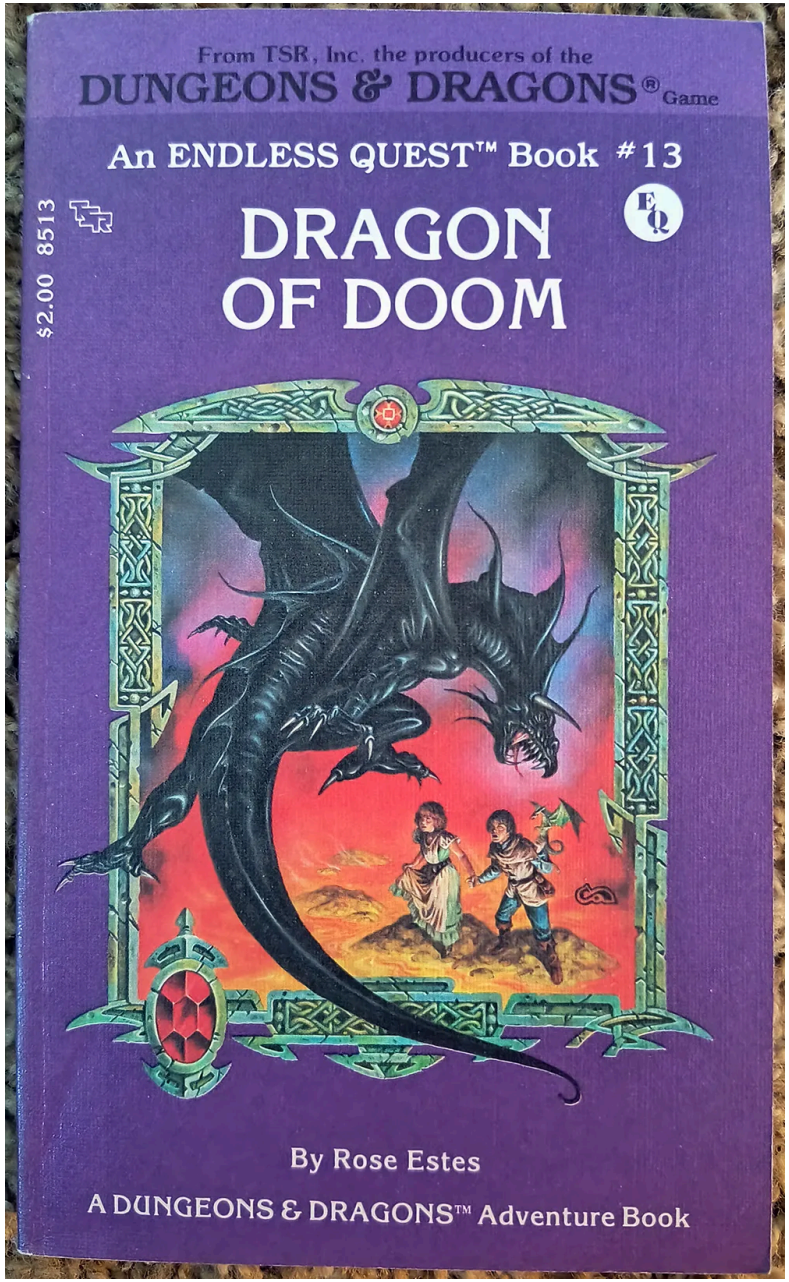
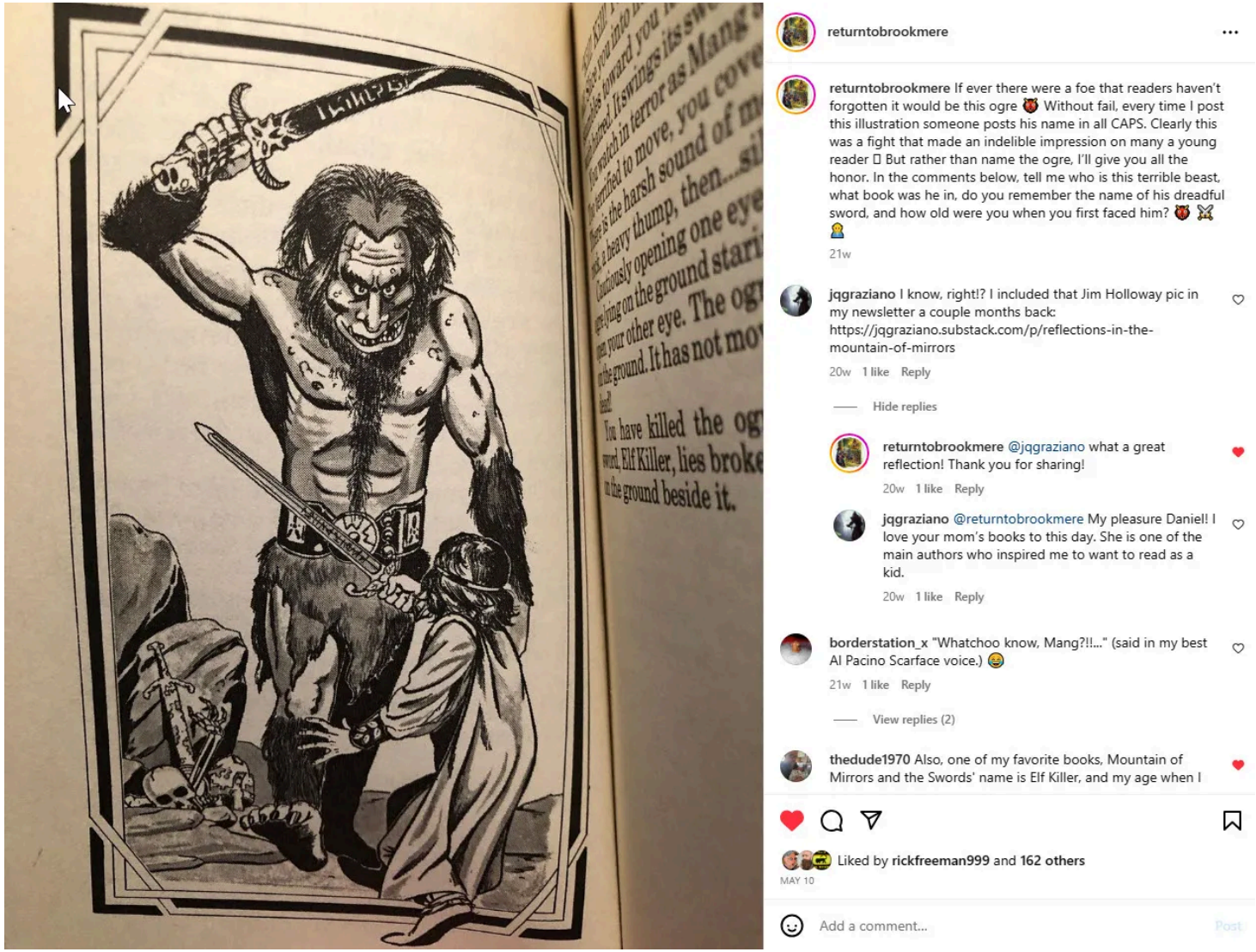
11. **These 4 books, along with the other 5 you wrote in the series went on to sell 12M+ copies and still inspire and entertain people of all ages today.**

Does that sound about right, Rose?



Cover artist: Clyde Caldwell

RE: There was no support from that person, then or ever. There was zero liking or respect between us. The last number I heard was 16 million when I was inducted into TSR's Millionaire's Club. The last time I talked to Hasbro, they said 21 million that was in 2010.



"Mang" . . . or Rose's old boss? (Art by Jim Holloway from "Mountain of Mirrors" Endless Quest book)

JQ: 21 million! Wow - and that was a while ago - it's got to be more now! Truly an incredible hero's journey you were on. What's something you can share with us about these early Endless Quest books that you haven't shared anywhere else?

RE: I'm ashamed to say that I never had a plot for any of those early books, I just picked up a pen and started to write. I had no clue how to build a story and no idea how it would end. Fortunately, the format almost told you what to do. I've never admitted that to anyone.

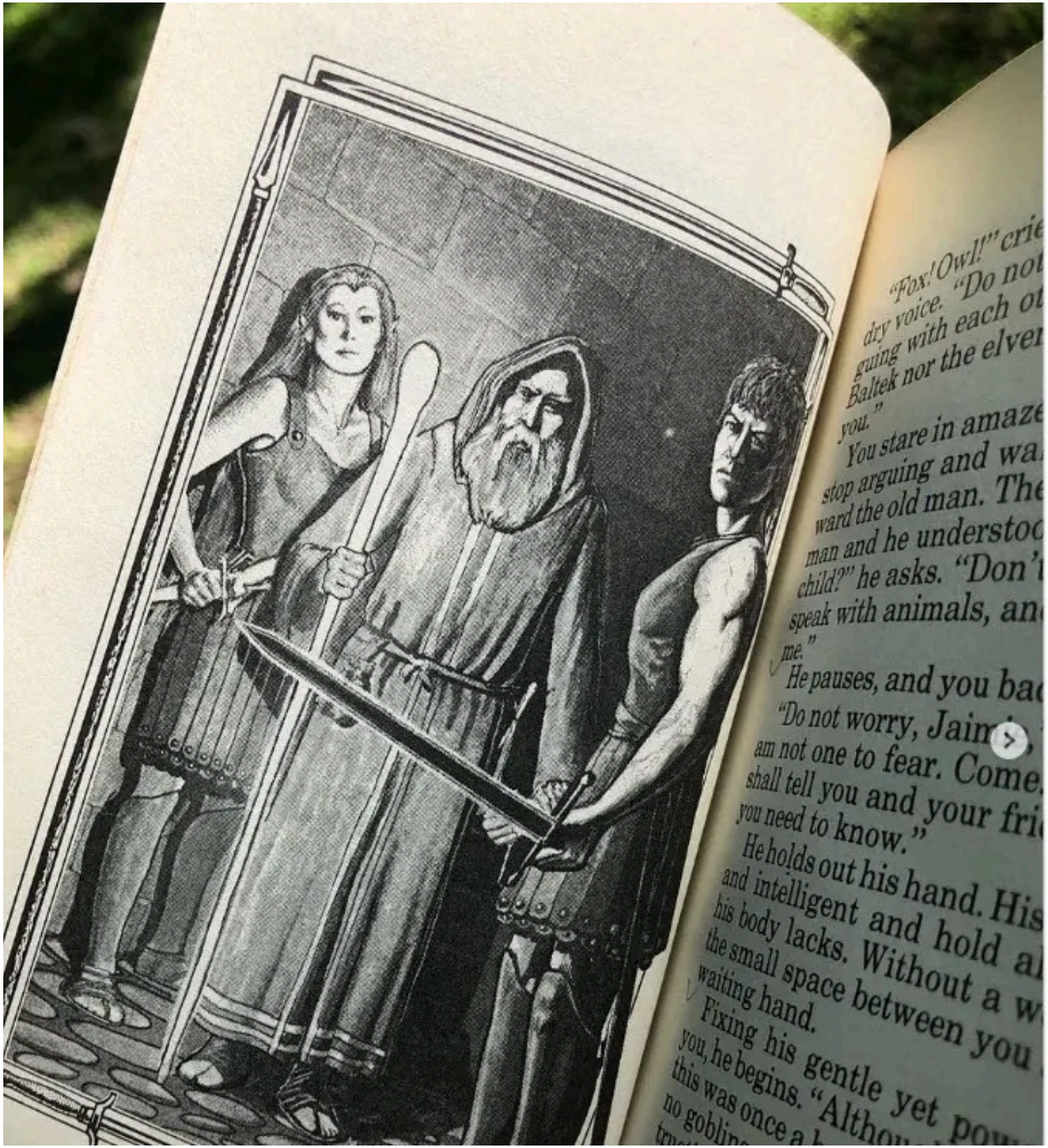
JQ: 🙄 😲 😵 Don't worry, Rose, your secret is safe with me.

By the way, how was it working with Clyde Caldwell, Larry Elmore, Jeff Easley, Jim Holloway and the other artists from the Endless Quest books?

RE: It was great fun. Except when Jim Holloway asked my daughter to pose for the cover. He drew her as a busty fantasy heroine in scanty clothes though that wasn't how she posed. Apparently, I went off on him. He was startled and taken aback. I don't remember the incident at all. Hopefully, he forgave me.

Larry Elmore, Jeff Easley, Clyde Caldwell, Keith Parkinson, Harry Quinn and Holloway were all easy to work with and I loved all of their covers. The first six EQ covers have been turned into prints and are signed by the artists and myself.

> (Endless Quest signed prints can be purchased through Daniel's Return to Brookmere Instagram account or in-person through Rose at the Hauser gallery or the gallery's Facebook page)



returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere I spoke with Harry Qu
who did the interior art for Pillars of Pente
used my brother and sister as models for
the story. Now unless he's talking about g
has to be Baltek and Lydia. After all, my si
Pictured above with King Pentegarn, are L
followed by a childhood picture of my sis
@lydia.estes.5 and @max.estes. Are they
be the judge!

68w

max.estes Always loved that pic!

68w 2 likes Reply

sonicdecay He captured the resemblance
fantastic reach back into your past these l
you.

68w 2 likes Reply

angels_wept So rad!! 🐱

68w 1 like Reply

davidatl19 That leaves you as the inspirat

68w Reply

View replies (1)

colinrichardsart That is very cool!

68w 1 like Reply

thedude1970 Omg yes!!!

68w 1 like Reply

View replies (1)

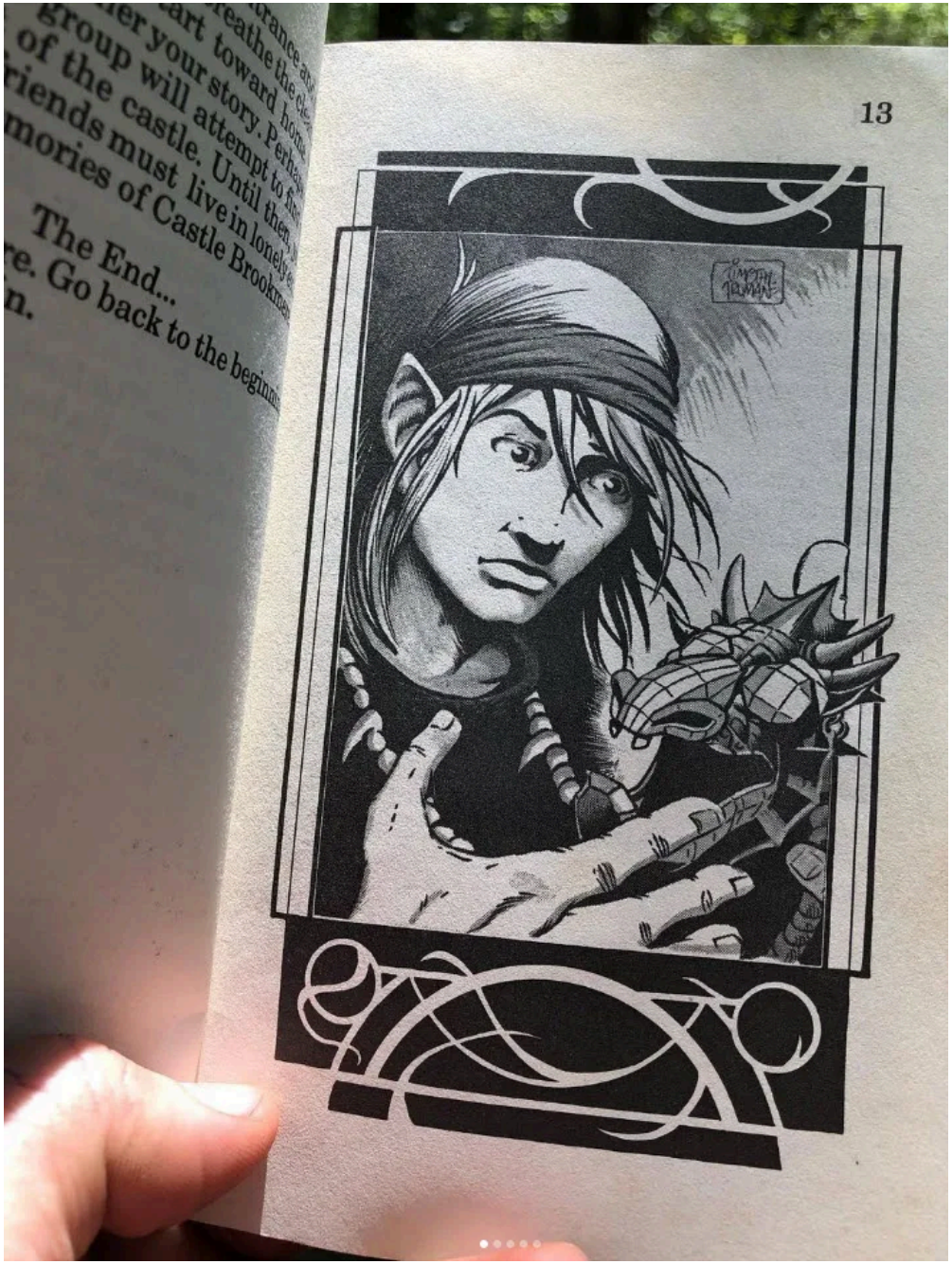
Liked by bookstagrammaticus and 67 o

JUNE 12, 2022

Add a comment...

Lydia & Max a la Harry Quinn from “Pillars of Pentegarn” Endless Quest book

JQ: After your massive Endless Quest success (and other books like Greyhawk), TSR made a HUGE mistake. They sent you to a book conference to promote these books, not realizing the celebrity you had become. Publishers lined up to get you to come work for them. That must have felt so good & vindicating after having your work & ideas minimized for so long.



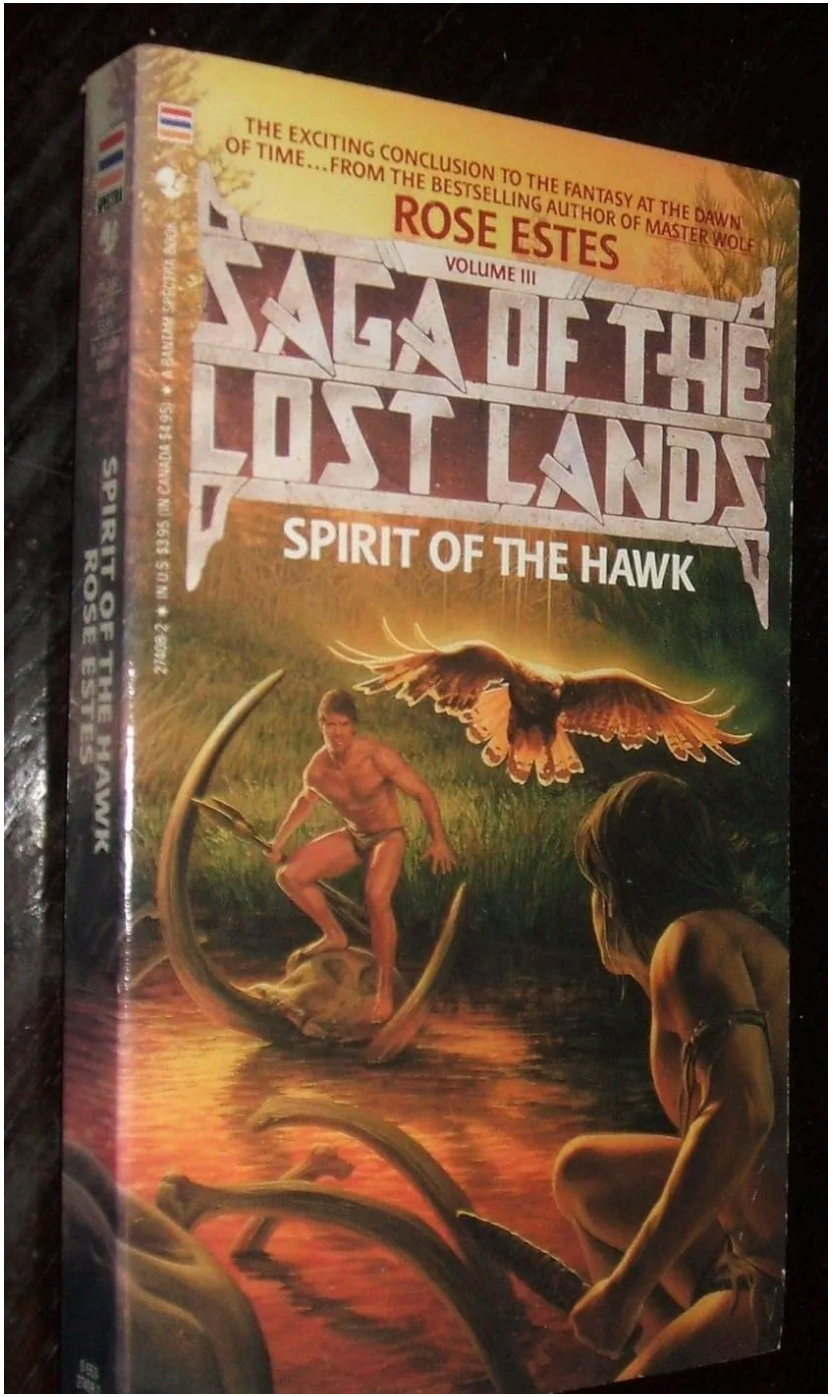
group will attempt to flee
of the castle. Until then,
riends must live in lonely
mories of Castle Brookmere

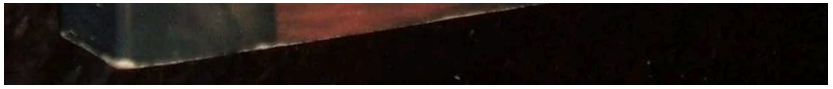
The End...
re. Go back to the beginning
n.

13

Illustration of Brion by Timothy Truman from “Return to Brookmere” Endless Quest book

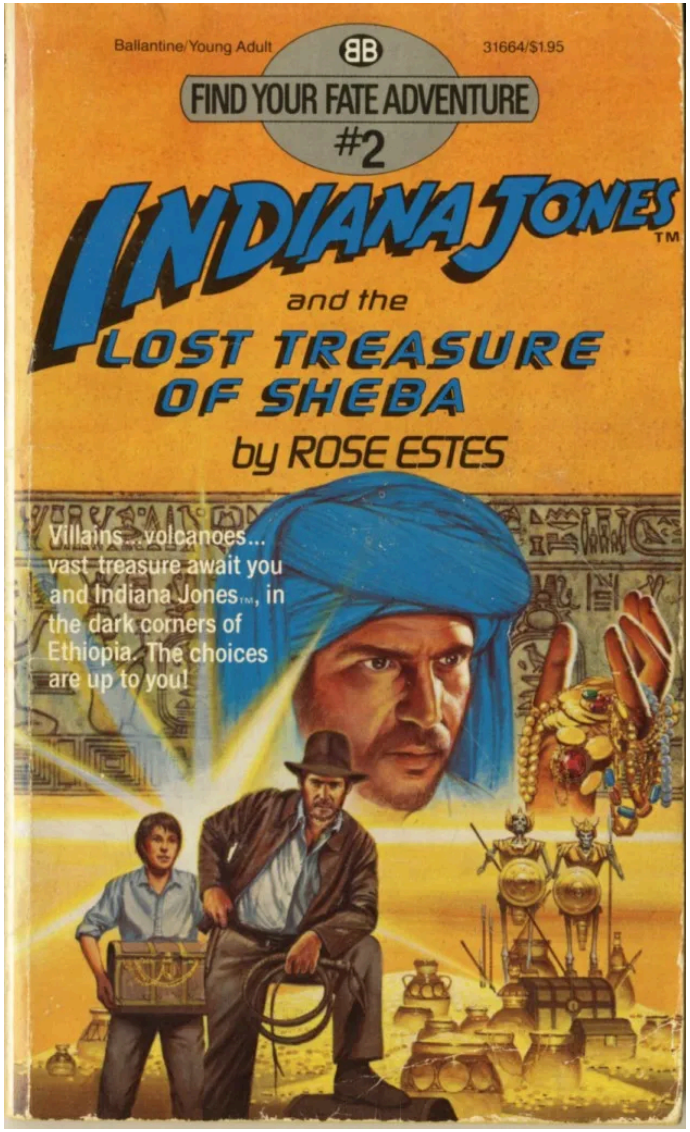
RE: No one was more surprised than I. But on the flight to Dallas, my boss at the time suggested that such a thing might happen, so I was somewhat prepared but still VERY surprised. And yes, it made me realize how much the company didn't like me, personally and how adversarial our relationship had become.


THE EXCITING CONCLUSION TO THE FANTASY AT THE DAWN OF TIME...FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF MASTER WOLF
ROSE ESTES
VOLUME III
SAGA OF THE LOST LANDS
SPIRIT OF THE HAWK
SPIRIT OF THE HAWK
ROSE ESTES



Cover artist: Pamela Lee

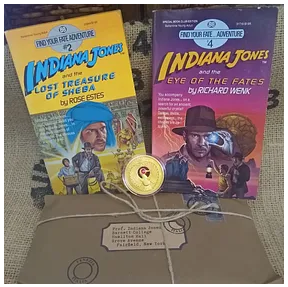
JQ: That is such a shame, but I'm glad you got out of there for yourself . . . and because that's when another one of my most favorite childhood experiences (and current possessions) came to be: *Indiana Jones and the Lost Treasure of Sheba* - a "Find Your Fate Adventure" by Bantam Books. How was it working there, and tell us about some of your favorite experiences working on those Find Your Fate books.



Cover artist: David B. Mattingly

RE: I didn't actually ever work at RH [Random House is the parent company of Bantam], I wrote from home. They bought me a Phillips computer. It had

to be shipped from the Netherlands. Personal computers were pretty rare and expensive at the time. Working with my editor Jenny Fanelli was fantastic. I learned so much from her and she actually DID like me.

> ***Reminisce with Rediscovered Realms about the Indiana Jones Find Your Fate books!***
>
> ## Indiana Jones: Raiders Of The Eye Of Sheba
>
> J.Q. GRAZIANO · JUNE 24, 2023
>
> 
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>
> Being a child of the ‘80s, I recall many great action movies, but few have captured my heart and imagination like the adventures of Indiana Jones. He was everything that I, my brother, and tens-of-millions of others wanted to be. Adventurous, smart, confident, lucky, tough, educated, a magnet to the ladies, and infused with a healthy dose of roguish humo…
>
> Read full story →

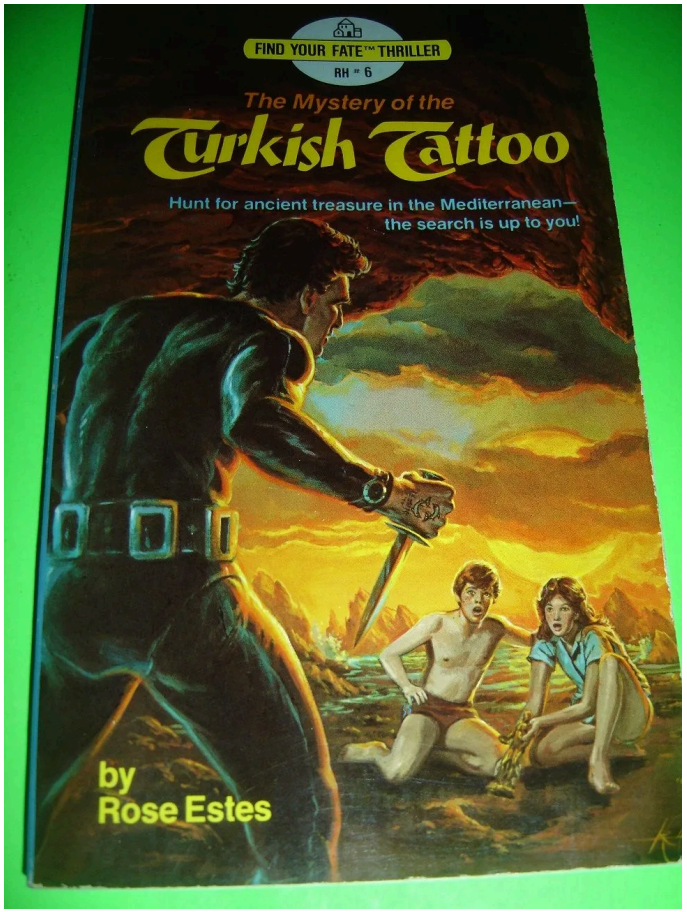
JQ: Rose, it seems like your life experiences make their way into most of the books you write. For example, I’ve read that “Mountain of Mirrors” was written during the coldest winter in Lake Geneva, and “*Pillars of Pentegarn*” was to help you grieve the loss of your parents and both grandmothers. And we learned about “Return to Brookmere”, earlier in the interview.

Even the dwarves in “Revolt of the Dwarves” were based on the D&D gaming group that hung out where you lived!

> *“All these bearded men came over, playing all night, some falling asleep during the game. That's how I envisioned the dwarves would be.”*

Looking back, would you say your life experiences, good & bad, provided you with what you needed to become who you were meant to be?

RE: Absolutely.



This must represent a life experience where Rose first learned how to take out a creepy knife-wielding man in tights. (Cover artist: Robert Adragna)

JQ: You had also once stated that you had a bunch of "odd and colorful friends". It appears your place was a sort of nexus – a commune of sorts where everyone could hang out with different artists, authors and creators. Which ones were you friends with and what's a story or two you can share about them?

RE: There have always been odd and colorful people in my life, people who don't believe in rules which often puts them crosswise of society. I guess they are more interesting to me than "normal" members of society.

55

fingers, you
care, you wrap
and heavy in
tuck it away in your
my word,, you prom
If I rid Shanafria of
my own people.
w steps, you turn
but all you see is
all and a few clum
Souls feels heavy
red voice says, "G
hee have good luck
ys heavy with the
the foot of the mo
opening in the rock.
nothing but hear
ear of the cave. Disc
g from the cave, you
creep down the tu
find yourself at the
m. Tied up in the ro
ings, and humans
nd unhappy.

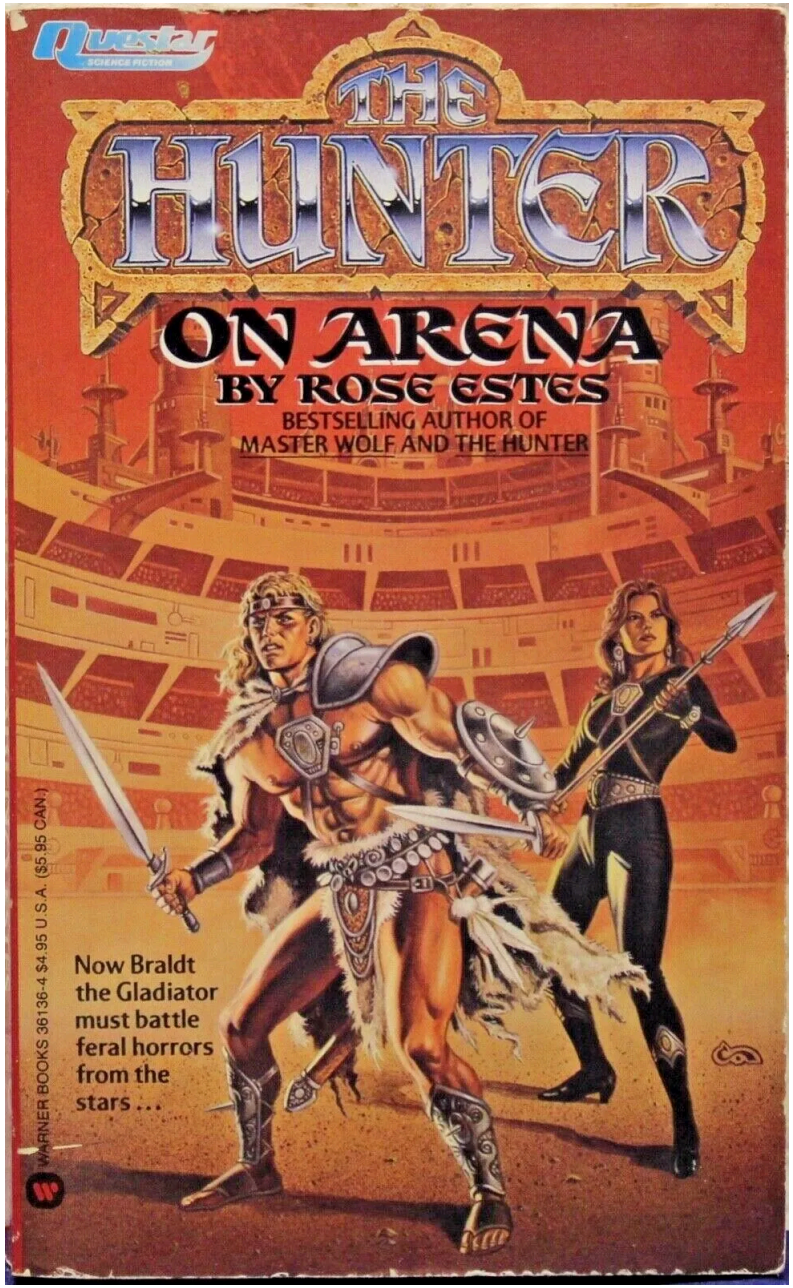
"Hurry up with that meat, Bob. We've got to get it over to Rose's place for D&D tonight!" (Art by Jim Holloway from "Mountain of Mirrors" Endless Quest book)

JQ: That makes a lot of sense to me!

I just want to make a statement that I understand it wasn't all rainbows and unicorns at TSR for employees back then. It was a real world imperfect business with real world imperfect people, and therefore, real world B.S.

I recognize from things that you and others have made that there could be unfair biases and mean-spiritedness at times. I'm sorry you went through that, but thank you and the others for persisting in bringing to fruition the wonderful fantasy creations you all made together.

RE: It was a very exciting time in the beginning and the emphasis was less on who you were as an individual and more on what you could bring to the common goal, even though we didn't really know what that was. When success actually arrived, is when the separations began.



Cover artist: Clyde Caldwell

JQ: Rose, it sounds like you've had more than your fair share of difficulties in life. The car accident you mentioned earlier that left you with Aphasia wasn't even the first time you experienced extreme medical hardship. An illness forced you to spend the entire year from the age of 10-11 convalescing in bed. Was this where you developed your love of reading?

RE: I was a fragile sickly child from birth. Rheumatic fever got me when I was nine and I spent the entire next year in bed. If I needed to go to the bathroom, I was carried.

All of this was apparently useless and earlier this year I had heart surgery to replace the aortic valve that was damaged by the fever.

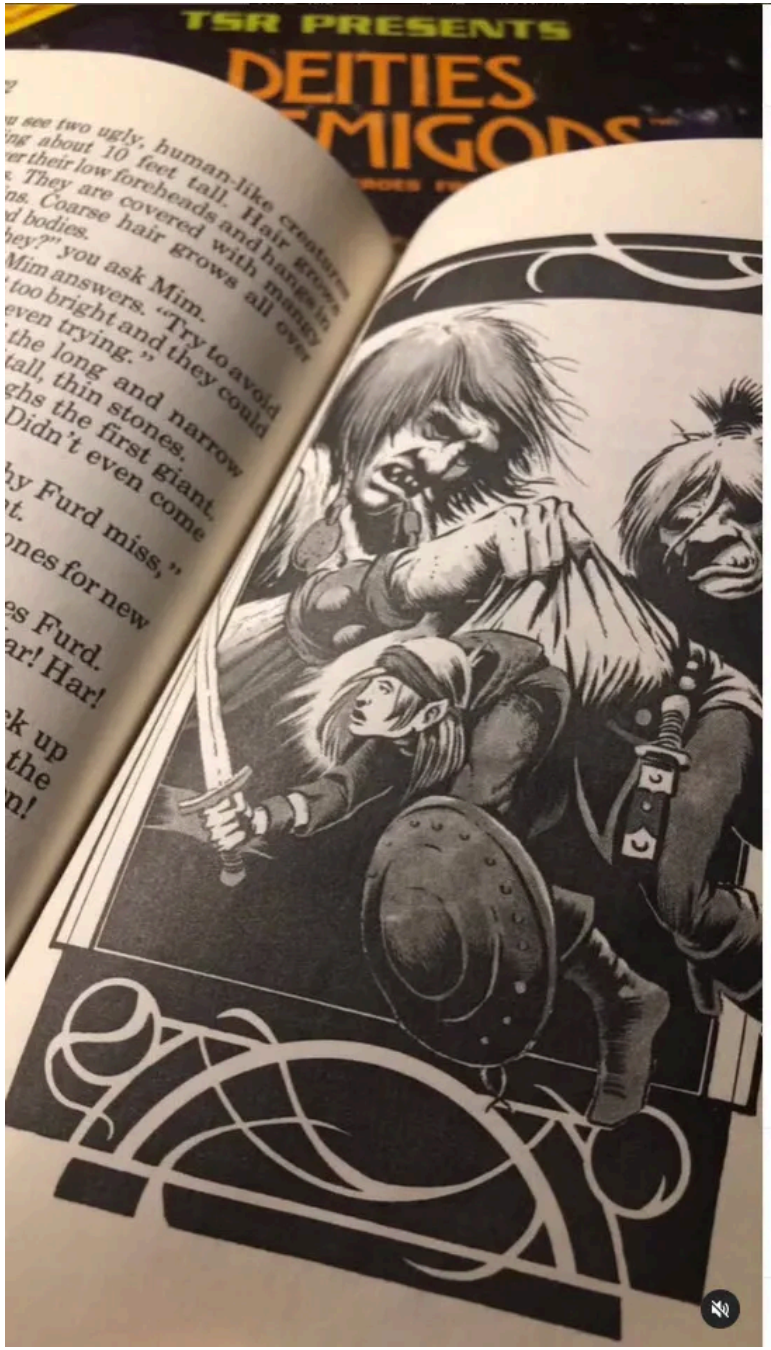
JQ: Can you explain more about what was "useless"?

RE: The staying in bed for a year to prevent heart damage, plus a restriction of physical activity was useless because the damage to the heart had already occurred. In fact, the total bed rest and lack of physical activity actually prevented the heart from gaining muscle strength. Doctor's just shake their heads when I tell them that now.

The good/bad news is that while they could save my life with modern medical advances, my father died of the exact same problem, caused by the same fever when he was a body. He died when he was 48.

No, reading was my passion from a very, very young age. Since I was unable to go out and play I had few, if any friends. Books were my worlds, my

friends. Books have sustained me all of my life, in good times and especially in the bad times.



returntobrookmere
Marco Cutini • The Orc Cave

returntobrookmere "Hey, Ool, look at what Furd find," Furd mutters.
You kick your feet but the giant just shakes its head and laughs.
"Kind of cute. What is it, Ool?" asks Furd.
"Is elf, dummy. Give to me. Need food. Only had a handful of rats today." demands Ool.
"No, mine. Furd find it. Furd keep it." says Furd clutching you in its enormous hand.
...
Furd holds you close to his beady eyes and says, "Does it taste good?"

This week Brion finds himself in a bit of a spot. Don't miss this week's episode of Return to Brookmere to here the whole tale and cast your vote. Where will our adventure go next? The choice is yours!

4w

saruman_the_dad711 All about that Furd life, Ool is a punk.

4w 1 like Reply

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Liked by **taleofthemanticorepodcast** and **61 others**

SEPTEMBER 3

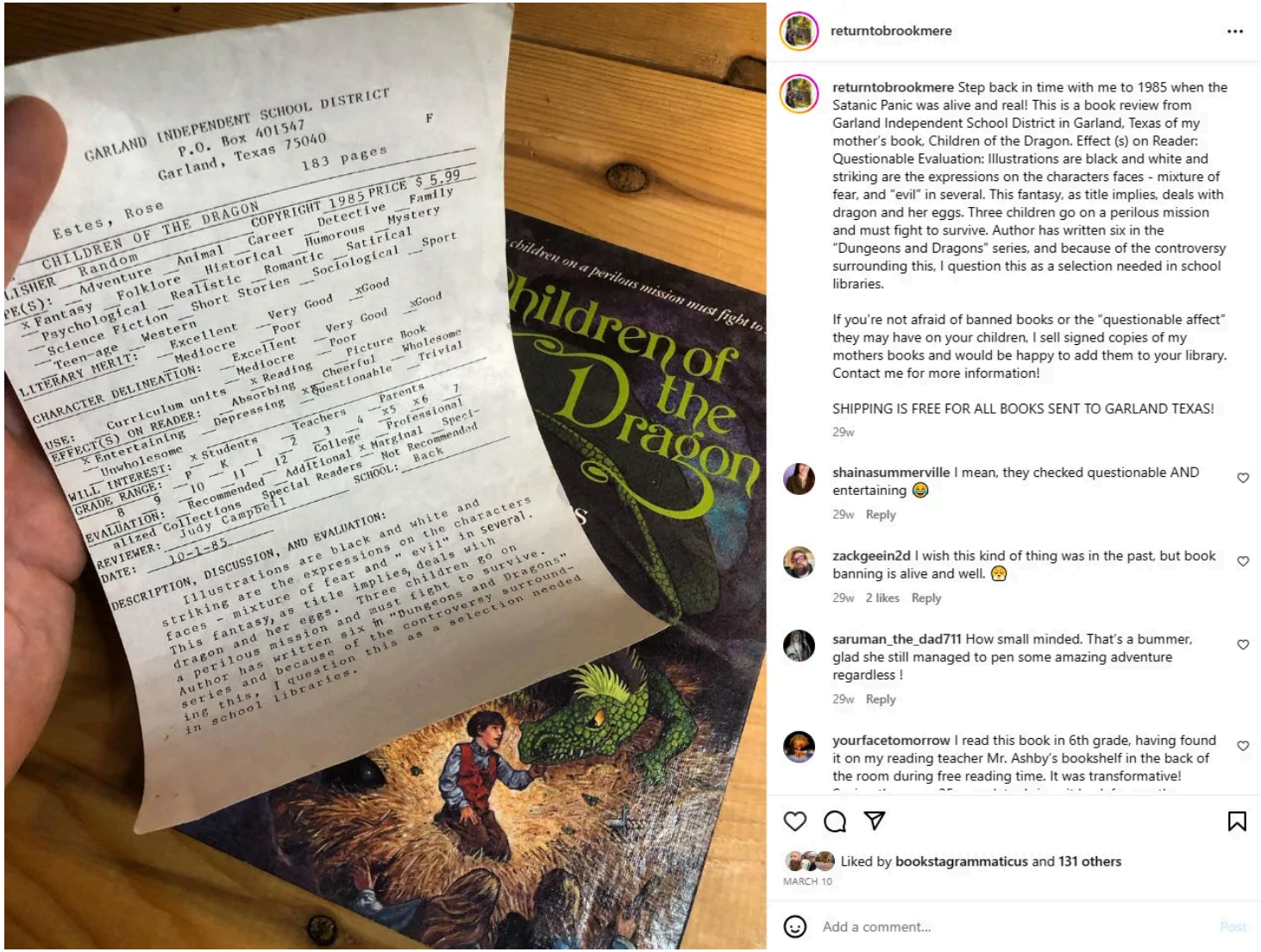
Add a comment... Post

Illustration by Timothy Truman from “Return to Brookmere” Endless Quest book

JQ: Rose, you are apparently unstoppable. You’ve surpassed your acquired disability, other extreme health issues, workplace challenges and more, and keep creating and keep writing. To date, you have 39 titles under your name.

What advice can you give to other creators, authors & artists when they’re feeling lower than low - when it feels like the world is playing a cruel trick on you — or even worse — when it feels like it just doesn’t care?

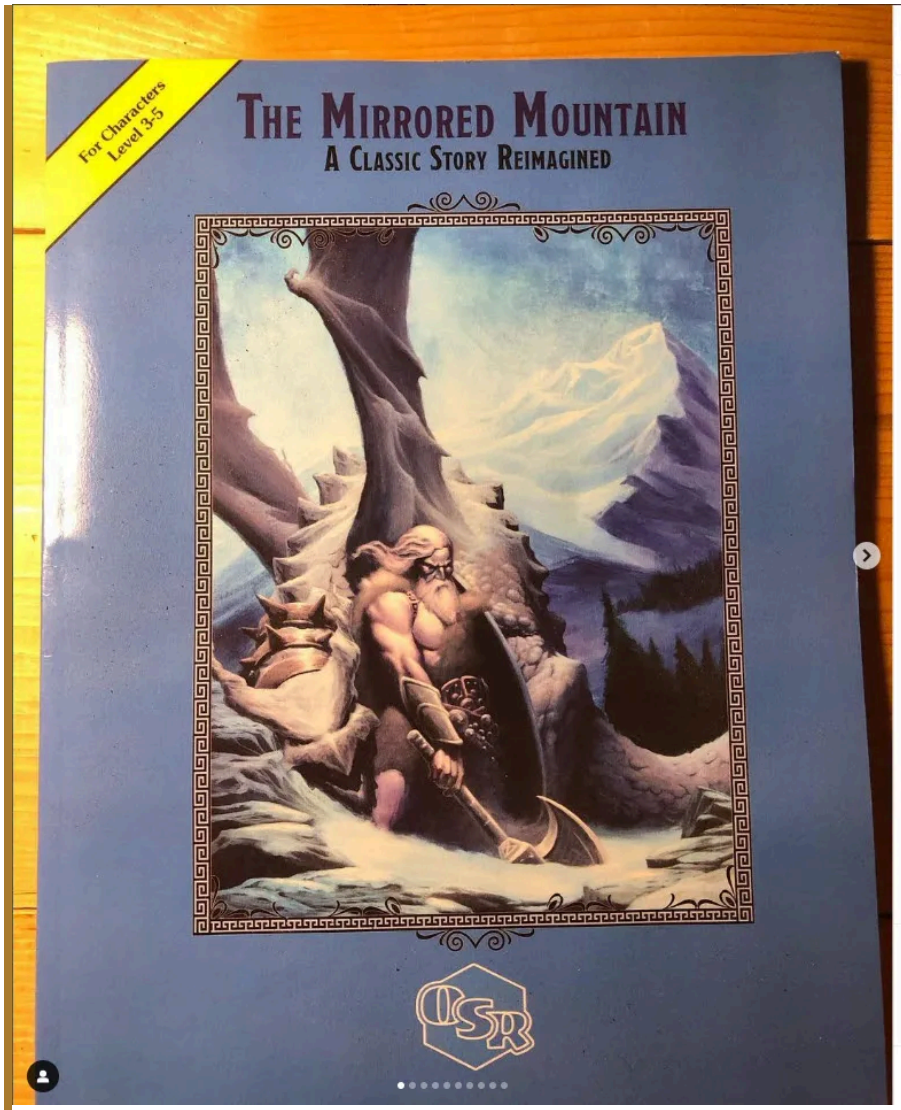
RE: READ, escape your own life and merge with someone else's. Bring a dog or cat into your world. Believe in yourself and never give up.



When the world seems against you, "READ, escape your own life and merge with someone else's. Bring a dog or cat into your world. Believe in yourself and never give up." - Rose Estes

JQ: Thank you for that inspiration. Oh, I was so shockingly surprised to see a new RPG module a few weeks ago based on your *"Mountain of Mirrors"* Endless Quest book - and you were part of it! Congratulations!

> Check out "The Mirrored Mountain" OSR Adventure by Roderic Waibel of Izegrim Creations with illustration by Bryan "Glad" Thomas and Larry Elmore! (So cool)



returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere Friends, recently I had the pleasure of meeting Roderic Waibel of Izegrim Creations who has reimagined my mother's Endless Quest, Mountains of Mirrors, into a playable adventure!

The Mirrored Mountain includes many familiar fiends and foes, but you will notice that the mountain map has been expanded to include additional caverns and caves beyond what was found in the original quest - so cool!

With fantastic interior illustrations by Bryan "Glad" Thomas and Larry Elmore, this game belongs in every old-school gamer's dungeon and is sure to transport you back to 1980 and your parent's rec room.

I'm thrilled to be able to offer this adventure to all my Patreon members as downloadable PDF. Download your copy today - link in bio!

9w

immersive_dungeon_delving This is really cool. 😊
9w 1 like Reply

raisedondnd I NEED this module!
9w 1 like Reply

View replies (1)

l_a_nthropologist Oh that's cool! Turning the Endless Quest books into modules is a freaking brilliant idea!
9w 1 like Reply

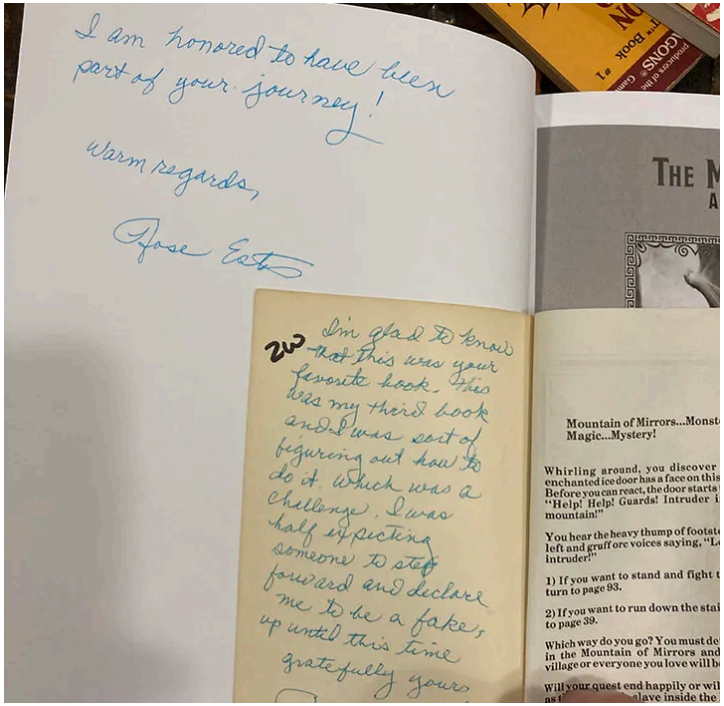
oneofmanyagain 👏👏👏
9w 1 like Reply

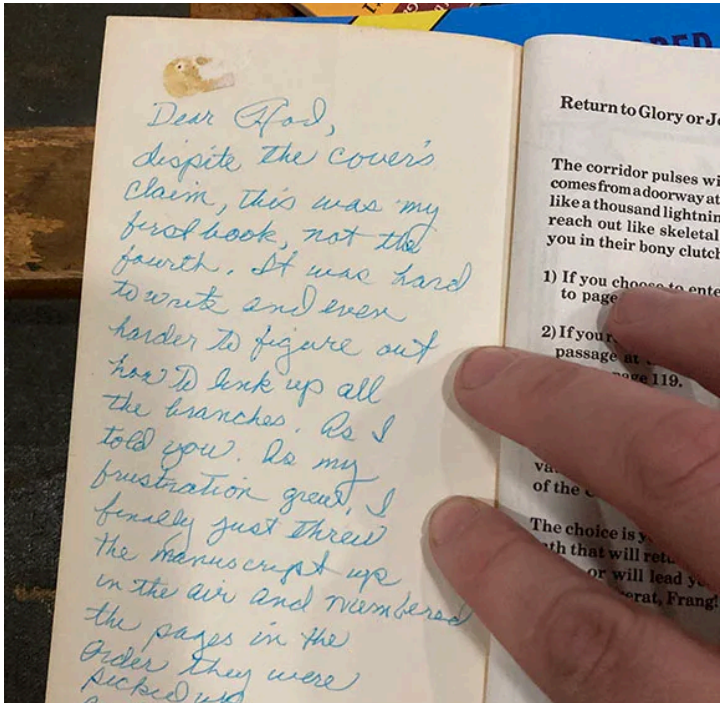
thedude1970 Wow, that's so awesome!!!

Liked by **rickfreeman999** and **222 others**
JULY 30

Add a comment... Post

Roderic & Rose


I am honored to have been
part of your journey!
Warm regards,
Rose Estes
I'm glad to know
not this was your
favorite book. This
was my third book
and I was sort of
figuring out how to
do it. Which was a
challenge. I was
half expecting
someone to step
forward and declare
me to be a fake,
up until this time
gratefully yours
THE M
Mountain of Mirrors...Monst
Magic...Mystery!
Whirling around, you discover
enchanted ice door has a face on this
Before you can react, the door starts
"Help! Help! Guards! Intruder i
mountain!"
You hear the heavy thump of footst
left and gruff orc voices saying, "L
intruder!"
1) If you want to stand and fight t
turn to page 93.
2) If you want to run down the stai
to page 39.
Which way do you go? You must de
in the Mountain of Mirrors and
village or everyone you love will b
Will your quest end happily or wil
slave inside the


Dear God,
despite the cover's
claim, this was my
first book, not the
fourth. It was hard
to write and even
harder to figure out
how to link up all
the branches. As I
told you. As my
frustration grew, I
finally just threw
the manuscript up
in the air and rearranged
the pages in the
order they were
picked up
Return to Glory or J
The corridor pulses wi
comes from a doorway at
like a thousand lightnin
reach out like skeletal
you in their bony clutch
1) If you choose to ente
to page
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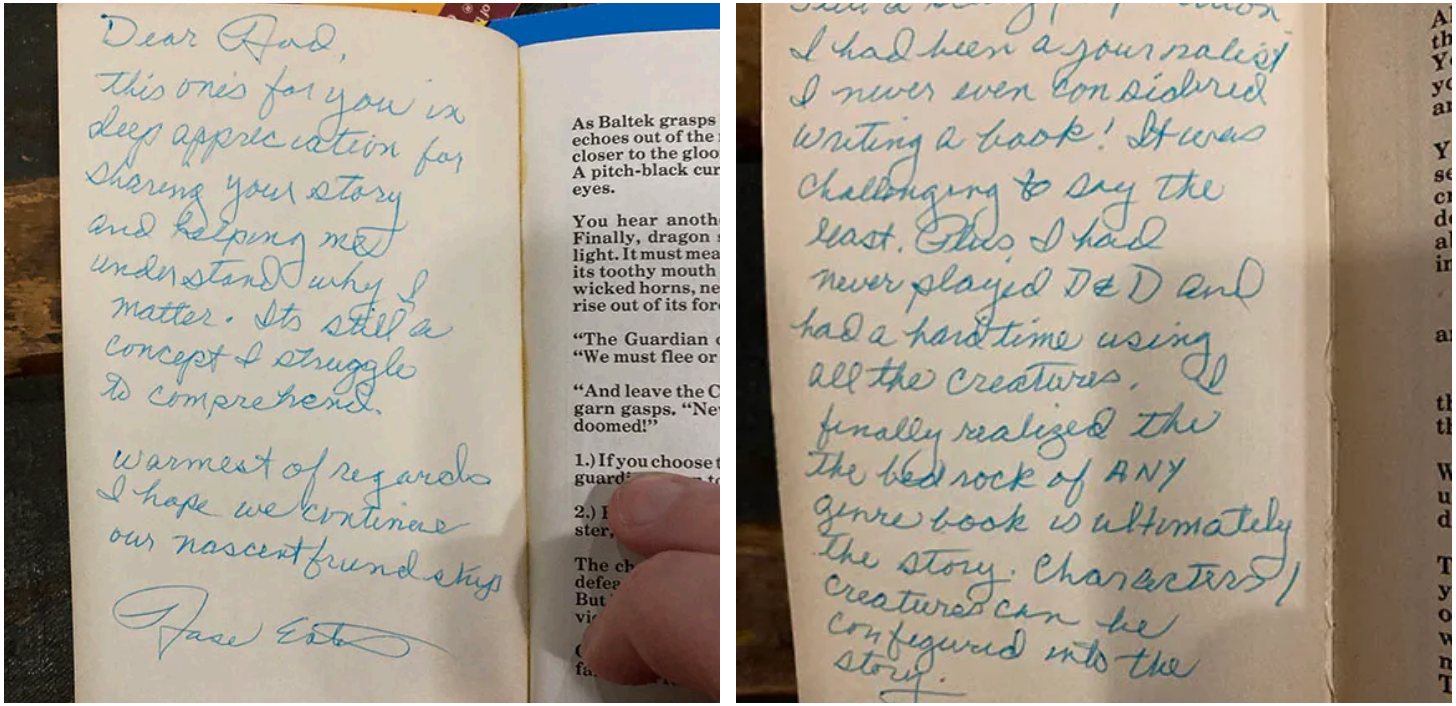


Wonderful Endless Quest Inscriptions by Rose to Roderic

JQ: What's next? What are you working on now?

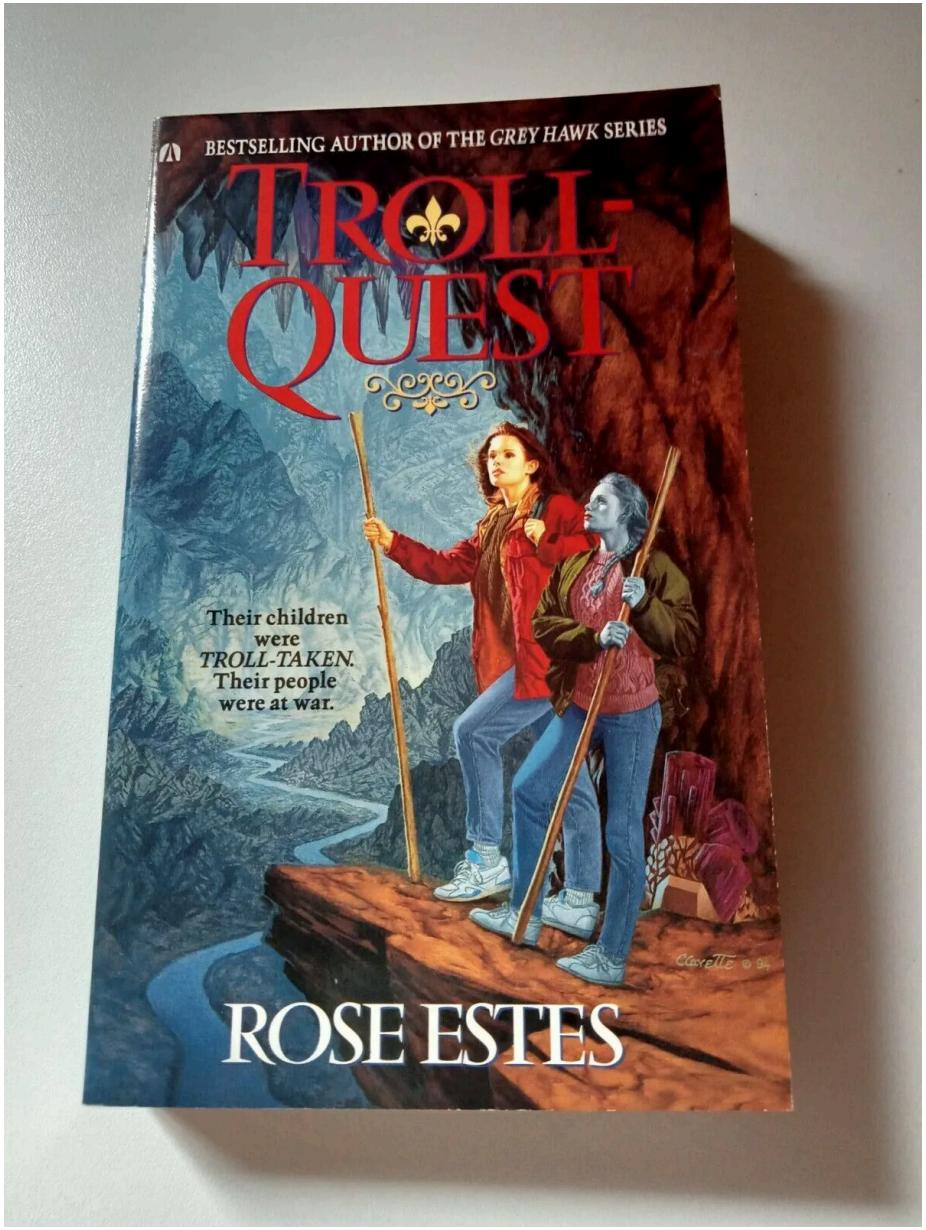
RE: I wrote two books *TrollTaken* and *TrollQuest* that I actually believe are the best books I've written.

Apparently they would be classed as Urban Fantasy, a genre I was unfamiliar with when I wrote them. The car accident ended what was to be a three book series.

Recently, I've become immersed in urban fantasy from several authors, Devon Monk first and foremost.

I now know where those books could have gone and am hoping that I can rewrite and finish them. I don't know if that's even possible. I may do it for myself if Berkeley says no.

Aside from that I'm working on a book called *“Different”* involving a young rainbow dragon named Ember who is an ugly, muddy brown color and is the secret shame of her family - and a young boy named Wili who is supposed to follow in his family's footsteps and become a sorcerer, but he's dyslexic and the runes never look the same twice. Also, a young bugbear who .... ok, that's all I'm going to reveal.



Cover artist: Don Clavette

JQ: Ooh, so exciting! Rose, in a recent podcast interview with your 3 children, you were asked what you were most proud of. Your response touched me very deeply and I had to write it down.

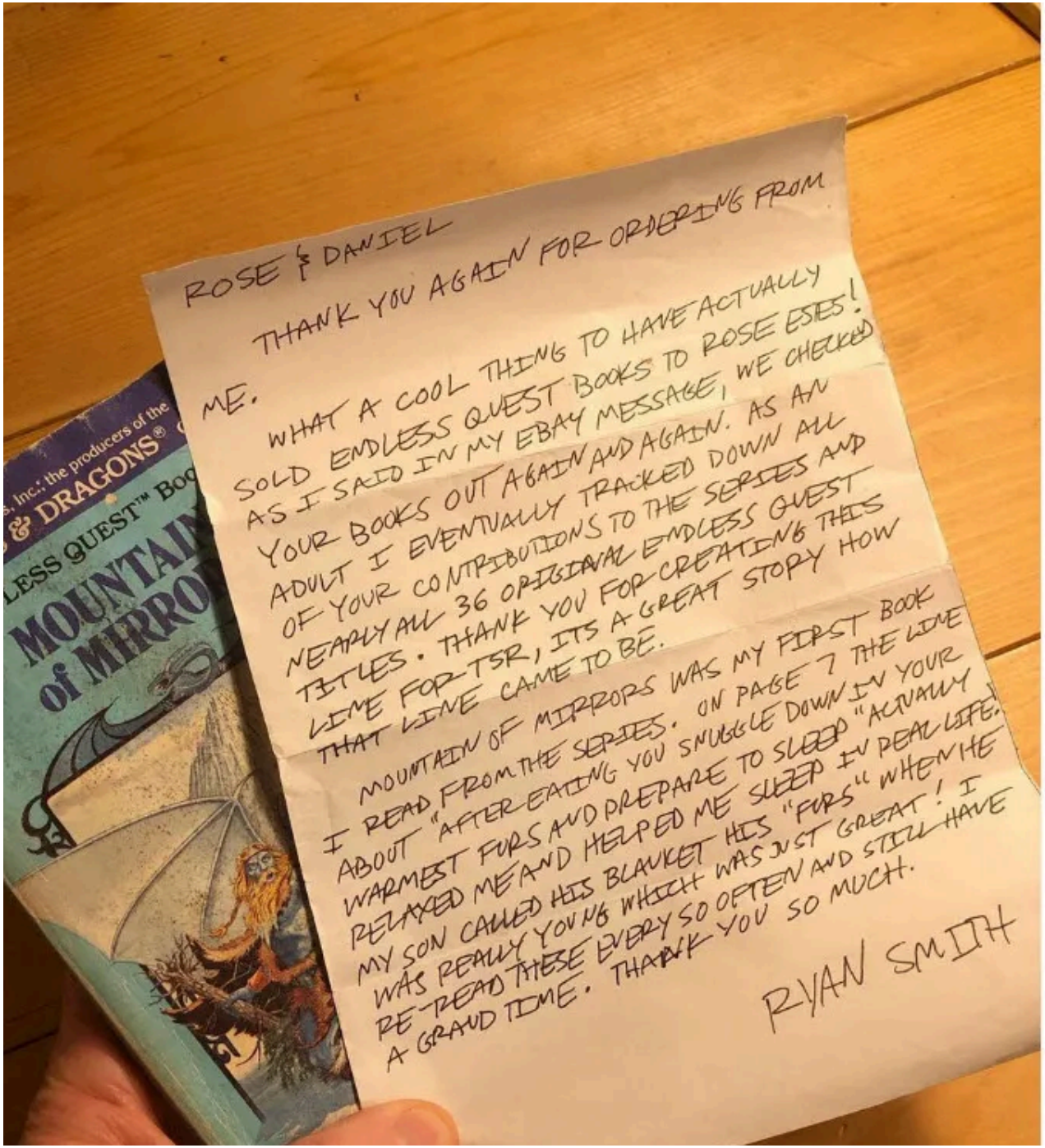
You replied, "One of the things I'm most proud about is that apparently I've created a legion of boy readers who grew up and are still reading."

What an amazing testament to your life work. When did you fully embrace this, knowing that imposter syndrome affects all of us and has an insidious way of sapping the joy out of the successes in our life? (btw, I know girl readers are part of that mix too, but they rarely needed as much encouragement to read as us boys did.!)

RE: I've never heard of imposter syndrome. I guess I really am an old fogey. I've just always known, though not understood that boys/men, do not read willingly. I've never understood it. I think one's mindworld is so much smaller without the expanded visions we gain from reading and learning other ways of viewing life.

> **JQ: On this topic, in a follow-up conversation, Rose shared with me:**
>
> RE: "You asked about the impact the award has had on my life and I think part of this new happiness is because of the award. I've had a difficult time embracing a lot of the emotion that comes from fans. I actually feel embarrassed, to be honest.
>
> Another interviewer, I think the very first one, a man named Martin in Australia has helped me finally figure it out.

> I felt that I was a fraud.
>
> The books came about because of a mere fluke. Because someone pissed me off. I hadn't sat up nights writing till my fingers were numb. I hadn't sent off hundreds of manuscripts and been rejected 101 times. I hadn't yearned and burned to be an author. It just happened, almost without even trying hard. And it was merely one of a great many things I'd done to support myself and the kids. The fame had not felt deserved nor had it been thought of as anything important by those I worked with.
>
> But Martin has helped me to see that even though it wasn't intentional and I hadn't ticked any of the above mentioned boxes didn't mean that the response and the award weren't deserved.
>
> One reviewer, I forget who, gave me a 4-5 out of a possible 10. One of his criticisms was that there was too much talking and too few choices.
>
> A reader wrote back and said, "man, you just don't get it. He pointed out that the reader wasn't just an anonymous "you". You were actually someone who had a story, a background and real worries and friends, even if they were talking animals and the choices they made mattered."
>
> They pointed out that my books were very emotional and the reader connected on an emotional level unlike the anonymous multi, multi choice books. I felt like that person got it and then, finally, I did too. And so, while I am still not very comfortable with the praise, at least I am more accepting of it.”



returntobrookmere

returntobrookmere Here's a letter, my mo
eBay seller who sold us some of her book
side to my earlier post which questioned
mothers books would have on children.

Rose and Daniel,
Thank you again for ordering from me. W
actually sold Endless Quest books to Rose
eBay message, we checked your books ou
an adult, I eventually track down all of you
series in nearly all 36 original Endless Que
creating this line for for TSR. It's a great st
to be.

Mountain of Mirrors was my first book I re
page 7 the line about "after eating you sn
warmest, furs and prepare to sleep" actua
me sleep in real life! My son called his bla
was really young, which was just great! I re
often and still have a grand time. Thank y

Ryan Smith

Contact me if you need an Endless Quest
mother and I will hook you up!

29w

bluenote_1553 🙌🙌🙌

29w 1 like Reply

shdwfriend ❤️

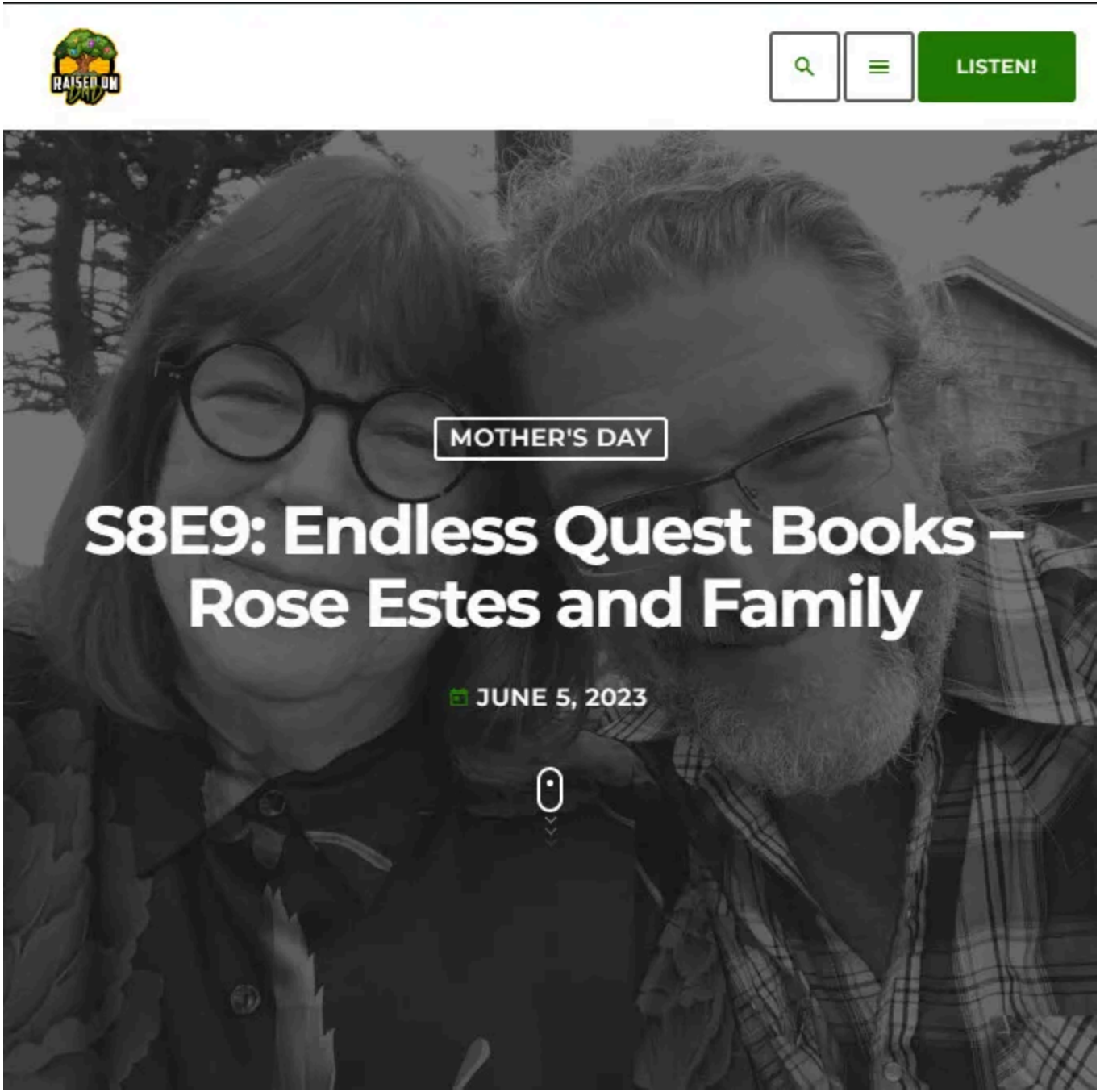
29w 1 like Reply

thedude1970 That's awesome!👏👏👏

29w Reply

An(other) example of people who “get it”

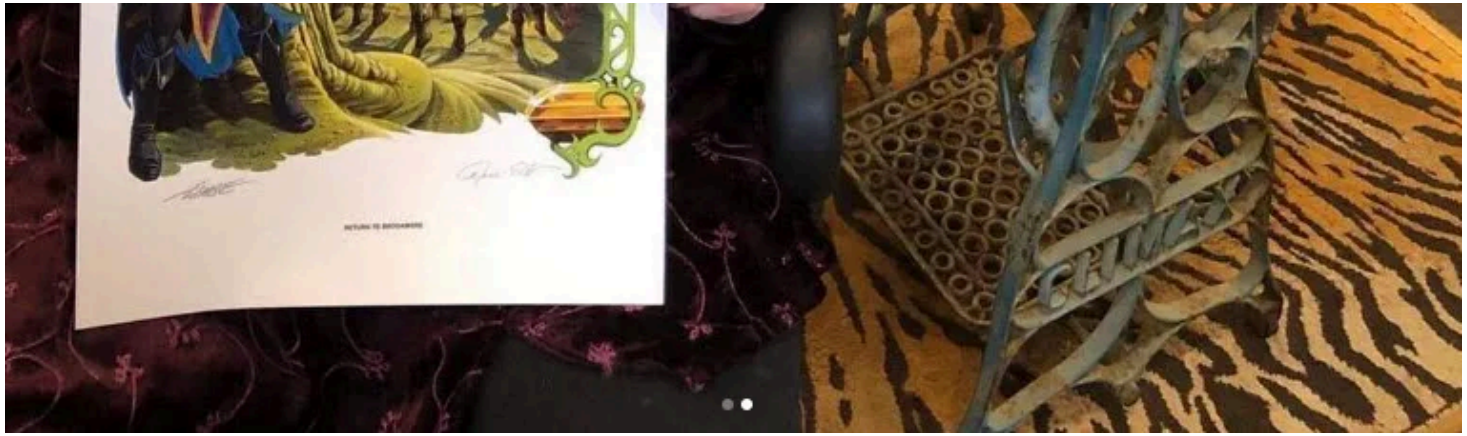
> The recent podcast interview done with Rose and her children by ***“Raised on DnD”*** was super-well done, interesting & fun. Make sure to check it out!


LISTEN!
MOTHER'S DAY
S8E9: Endless Quest Books – Rose Estes and Family
JUNE 5, 2023

JQ: In an excellent interview you did with Grand DM, he asked you: “If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?”

And your reply: “Well done, you made a difference in children's/animal's lives."

Rose, while we’re both still here I want to tell you “Well done” and Thank You from the bottom of my heart. You did make a difference in this child’s life.



> **Rose Estes has signed books, posters and more fulfilled by her son, Daniel, who also does regular readings of his Mom's Endless Quest books!**
>
> **Also, if you ever find yourself near Seal Rock, Oregon, make sure to stop by The Hauser Gallery and pay Rose a visit.**
>
> *(a HUGE thank you goes out to Daniel Estes for helping me make this interview happen, for his support, and for many of the pics I stole from his site!)*

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>
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> Project Creator
>
> Accept your quest, Level-up, Seek the treasure that will save your town & Forge your epic destiny! Fun Interactive Fiction Adventure
>
> Notify me on launch
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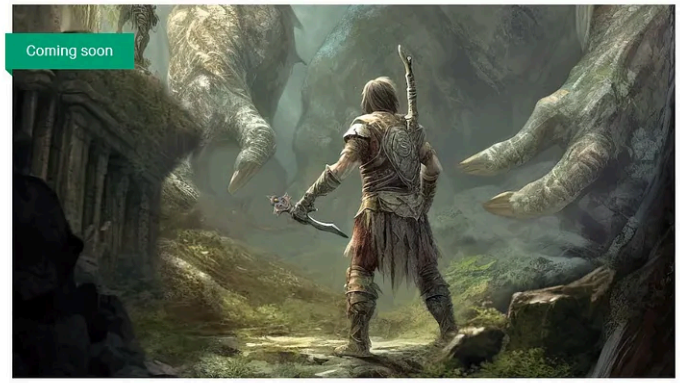
> 
>
>
> *(Featuring artwork from Clyde Caldwell & Luke Eidenschink!)*

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Write a comment...

Carlos de la Cruz Morales Oct 22, 2023 Liked by J.Q. Graziano

Great interview. First gamebook I ever read was Dungeons of Dread (translated to spanish as Las Cavernas del Terror) and it was a mind-boggling book for me. Reading it was like a epiphany: there were books about elfs and orcs, and swords and spells and magic! And I could be the hero in those books!

Later I read Lord of the Rings, and Dragonlance and years later bought my first roleplaying game. But I've always loved gamebooks and I still have my own copy of Dungeons of Dread, nearly 40 years later.

So thank you very much, Rose. You changed my life.

LIKE (1) REPLY SHARE

1 reply by J.Q. Graziano

Kveto Oct 17, 2023 Liked by J.Q. Graziano

Nice interview

Endless quests was for me, like many others, the gateway into roleplaying. It was really a stroke of genius to have the reader play a developed and named character (as opposed to the generic "you" in all other gamebook before them).

I had always wondered why she bowed out of the series at number 12 after getting the series running.

LIKE (1) REPLY SHARE

1 reply by J.Q. Graziano

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